

Hafa Adai!

OIA awards American Samoa \$2,498,545 grant funding. **PAGE 5**
CNMI has received \$73.43M FEMA COVID-19 relief so far. **PAGE 7**

\$1

Saipan Tribune



'TOUCHBACK' COUNTDOWN

Days until
'touchback rule'
takes effect on
Sept. 30, 2023:

110

Volume XXXIII, Issue No. 115
MONDAY, JUNE 12, 2023
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CNMI NURSES WEEK

Lt. Gov. David M. Apatang poses with officers and members of the CNMI Nurses Association after signing the proclamation that designates the week from June 11-17, 2023, as CNMI Nurses Week. The association will celebrate the 36th year of CNMI Nurses Week on June 11 to June 17, 2023, with the theme "You Make a Difference" in celebration of the ways in which nurses strive to provide safe and high-quality patient care and map out the way to improve the healthcare system.

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

\$33M PUA, FPUC overpayments collected

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI Department of Labor has collected to date \$33 million in total overpayments in Pandemic Unemployment Assistance and Federal Pandemic Unemployment Assistance funds.



Staffler

Speaking at the House of Representatives Ways and Means Committee's hearing on Labor's proposed 2024 budget last Wednesday, Labor Benefit Payment Control auditor Vince Sablan said they have collected

\$15,963,000 in PUA overpayments to date and \$17,772,000

See **\$33M** on Page 4

Boy in Kagman shooting returns; police await consent to interview

By **KIMBERLY B. ESMORES**
kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The 7-year-old boy who was shot in the face while playing with a gun in Kagman

last month has returned to Saipan following treatment in Guam. The Department of Public Safety currently awaits his parent's consent to interview the child.

See **BOY** on Page 4

NMI awarded \$1.7M for Medical Reserve Corps

The Administration for Strategic Preparedness and Response announced Friday that \$1.7 million has been awarded the CNMI to strengthen the Medical Reserve Corps net-

work, focusing on emergency preparedness, response, and health equity needs.

See **NMI** on Page 4

Do wins chicken wing eating contest at 'Taste'



From left, Nazario "Omar" Ajoste, Mike Do, and Madge Gai pose for a photo after being named the Top 3 winners of the 24th Annual Taste of the Marianas Fried Chicken eating competition last Saturday.

By **KIMBERLY B. ESMORES**
kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Mike Do came out victori-

ous during the chicken wing eating competition at the 24th Annual Taste of the Marianas
See **CONTEST** on Page 4



SOUTH KOREA OUTREACH

Gov. Arnold I. Palacios shakes hands with South Korea Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, and Transport Vice Minister of Transport Myeong-So Eo during a meeting last week to discuss the expansion of air service from South Korea to Saipan. The meeting was held as part of a series of discussions that included conversations with South Korean airline and tour agency leaders.

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

INSIDE



LOCAL

The Joeten Daidai Foundation donates \$30,000 toward Typhoon Mawar relief efforts.

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BUSINESS

Bank of Hawaii Foundation announces a contribution of \$30,000 for the American Red Cross.

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LIFE & STYLE

At least three guardsmen fainted during the military parade known as the Colonel's Review.

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Local

Ayuyu Battalion takes part in promotions, graduation rites

The Color Guard of Kagman High School's Ayuyu Battalion took part in two momentous occasions last May 31, 2023: the Chacha Oceanview Middle School promotion and the Kagman High School graduation ceremonies.

In both events, Ayuyu Battalion Color Guard presented and retired both the American and CNMI flags.

The Chacha Oceanview Middle School promotion took place at the Royal Taga Ballroom of Saipan World Resort, while the Kagman High School graduation ceremony was held at the American Memorial Park amphitheater.

On June 1, 2023, the Ayuyu Battalion's Color Guard performed their routine for the Tanapag Middle School promotion at the TMS soccer field.

Members of the Color Guard include cadet 1SG Jarrod Muna as the left guard, cadet SG Damian Torres, who carried the U.S. flag, cadet 2LT Isidro Borja, who carried the CNMI flag, and cadet 2LT Kody Palacios, who served as the right guard. (PR)



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Color Guard of Kagman High School's Ayuyu Battalion perform flag duties at the Chacha Oceanview Middle School promotion ceremony.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Color Guard of Kagman High School's Ayuyu Battalion perform flag duties at the Kagman High School Graduation ceremony.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Color Guard of Kagman High School's Ayuyu Battalion perform flag duties at the Tanapag Middle School promotion ceremony.



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INVITATION FOR BID (IFB) NMHC IFB 2023-007

(This ad is paid for NMHC with HUD funds)

BID SUBMISSION DATE: July 05, 2023, 2:00 p.m.

PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM (PSS) TINIAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL REHABILITATION PROJECT, BUILDING K AND CAFETERIA INTERIOR

Project Package will be available on June 05, 2023, at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, during regular working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) Monday thru Friday except CNMI holidays. A non-refundable payment of One-Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) is required for each set of the project package. Payment must be made payable to NMHC and receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the project package at the reception counter.

The provisions on the NMHC Procurement regulations, NMIAC 100-60-725 AND 100-60-730 Prohibiting Gratuities, Kickbacks and Contingent Fees shall apply.

A Mandatory Pre-Bid Conference will be held at the NMHC Field Office in Tinian located at the NMC Campus in Tinian on June 15, 2023, 2:00 p.m. In addition, a Mandatory site Visit/Inspection of the project site will be conducted immediately after the Pre-Bid Conference. Failure to attend both the Mandatory Pre-bid conference and the Mandatory site Visit/Inspection will be considered a non-responsive bidder.

For more information, contact Mr. Jacob Muna, Office Manager, at (670) 234-9447 or via email at officemanager@nmhc.gov.net during business hours, 7:30am - 4:30pm Monday through Friday, except CNMI holidays.

/s/ JESSE S. PALACIOS
Corporate Director

/s/ MERCEDES "MARCIE" M. TOMOKANE
Chairwoman
NMHC Board of Directors

FOR TYPHOON MAWAR RELIEF EFFORTS

JDF donates \$30K to Red Cross Guam, NMI chapters

With the extensive damage caused by Typhoon Mawar to the Marianas last May 24, 2023, the Joeten Daidai Foundation, the philanthropic arm of Joeten Enterprises, announced its commitment in providing a total of \$30,000 toward Typhoon Mawar relief efforts.

Because of the greater impact on Guam with hundreds of families still without power, water and other critical needs, the Joeten Daidai Foundation has donated \$20,000 to the American Red Cross Guam Chapter and \$10,000 to the American Red Cross NMI Chapter for Saipan's sister island of Rota.

In sympathizing with the community, foundation director Patty T. Palacios said, "Our hearts are with the islands of Guam and Rota. We're all too familiar with the type of destruction typhoons of this magnitude bring to our region. It's safe to say



Joeten Daidai Foundation director Patty T. Palacios hands the donation check to John Hirsh, executive director of the American Red Cross-NMI Chapter, at the company's flagship store in Susupe. They are joined by other Red Cross and Joeten representatives.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

that there are many here still traumatized by the hardships and struggles in dealing with the aftermath of something so

catastrophic. It truly humbles a person. The only blessing amidst the chaos is seeing our islands work together

day after day as a community, as one. It serves as a reminder of our strength and

our resilience," she said.

John Hirsh, executive director of the American Red Cross-NMI Chapter, said the Red Cross is grateful for the generosity of the Joeten Daidai Foundation.

"Your financial gift empowers us to meet the critical needs of those impacted by Typhoon Mawar. The Joeten family has again demonstrated their deep community focus by helping families recover on Rota as well as assisting with our emergency humanitarian efforts [in] Guam," said Hirsch after accepting the check for the American Red Cross.

The Joeten Daidai Foun-

ation was established in 1994 from a vision of the late Jose "Joeten" C. Tenorio and his wife, Soledad "Daidai" Tenorio, as a means of giving back to the community. The foundation has been supported by the unwavering efforts and generosity from Joeten subsidiaries and affiliates J.C. Tenorio Enterprises, Joeten Development Inc., Joeten Ace Hardware, Joeten Motors Co., Marianas Management Corp., Saipan Shipping Co., Saipan Stevedore Co., Pacifica Insurance Underwriters, etc. and its many longstanding business partners throughout the decades. (PR)

Scoping meetings for Guam defense system is delayed

ASAN, Guam—In response to Typhoon Mawar-related damage and recovery efforts on Guam, the Missile Defense Agency has delayed the planned scoping meetings for public discussion of the Enhanced Integrated Air and Missile Defense System in Guam.

The MDA is extending the public comment period for the notice of intent titled "Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact

Statement for an Enhanced Integrated Air and Missile Defense System on Guam," to Aug. 11, 2023.

In addition, the MDA will reschedule the in-person open house scoping meetings on Guam to late summer of 2023. Notification for the meeting locations, dates, and times will be published and announced in local news media to encourage public participation.

Additional information on

the Proposed Action can be found at the MDA website: Missile Defense Agency - U.S. Department of Defense (mda.mil) (PR)

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Free blood testing for adult dogs today

By LEIGH GASES
leigh_gases@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Free blood testing for adult dogs is available at the Saipan Mayor's Animal Shelter in As Perdido today from 9:30am to 3pm.

The tests will show if your pet has heartworm, or one of several tick diseases such as Anaplasmosis and Ehrlichiosis. Testing will be first-come, first-serve until supplies run out.

If supplies are still available tomorrow or Wednesday, testing will continue. Bravecto and vaccinations will also be offered during this time.

This testing is part of the study in the CNMI to evaluate the prevalence of different diseases and parasites among island dogs. This study will help further understand what is making dogs sick, and to keep family pets healthy.

Lauren Cabrera, founder of Saipan Humane Society who is hosting an animal clinic until Wednesday, June 14, said, "With no resident practicing veterinarian, the CNMI has struggled to provide evidence-based care to animals residing here. Over the last few years, a lack of diagnostic testing has created a gap in knowledge regarding what diseases are actually impacting our island animals. Following a slew of strange symptoms and deaths noticed in Saipan dogs, one visiting veterinarian has decided to take action—Dr. Kris Anderson, in collabora-

tion with Texas A&M University."

After the conclusion of their clinic, Cabrera said they will be taking one

week specifically for furthering the training of volunteers and Dog Control Staff under the tutelage of Dr.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Free blood testing for adult dogs is available at the Saipan Mayor's Animal Shelter in As Perdido today from 9:30am to 3pm, to know if your pet has heartworm, or one of several tick diseases such as Anaplasmosis and Ehrlichiosis.

\$33M

From Page 1

million in PFUC overpayments—for a total of \$33,735,000 in overpayments.

Sablan said the collection is based on overpayments, intercepted payments due to fraud, out-of-state address, or incorrect payments.

As to the how much overpayments Labor has to collect in all, the Labor official said they can't tell because the auditing team don't just look at the supposed reported issues. "We do look at the claim overall. From the first date they claimed all the way through the last day they claimed," he said.

Sablan said they just want to make sure that the benefits are being paid accurately, that there is no improper payments, that either overpaid or underpaid for wages that might have been overreported.

Sablan said the \$33 million that have so far been collected are re-

turned to the accounts where they came from so they don't get spent or put into any other funding accounts.

He said it is a very rare instance when there are PUA 2 or 3 that were given and PUA 1 is still pending. That's because, in order to get PUA 2 and 3 funding, they have to exhaust the previous accounts, or weeks they claim for, Sablan said.

"There may be possibilities that it does happen, but that's a very rare case," he said.

He said there is offsetting arrangement that can be done in case there are claimants that got overpaid in PUA 1 and are eligible for PUA 2 and 3.

Sablan said an option for recollection process is set out by the U.S. Department of Labor.

He said when they do their audits, they verify the whole claim that they are eligible for so they can get an accurate estimate of what they are entitled to and offer them the appropriate payment options.

Sablan said the option is either

benefit deductions bi-weekly payments, or if they don't agree with their determinations, they have the option to go to the hearing office to get to another course to see if they are qualified.

Labor Secretary Leila Staffler told the Ways and Means Committee that the PUA Program was extended to next June 2024.

"So we have one year extension to complete the current processing that we have on hand," Staffler said.

She said they have a year to get the program done and they want to get it done within that period or sooner.

"We don't want people to wait a year. We want to get it done," the secretary said.

Staffler said she, however, can say that the PUA 1 numbers have dwindled down so they are mainly in the adjudicating phase.

"We are not adjudicating as many of the PUA 1 claimants at this time. And we are now more into the PUA 2 and beyond," she said.

BOY

From Page 1

Saipan Tribune learned that the child involved in the shooting last May 21 in Kagman is back on island, but DPS spokesperson Fred Sato said in a statement that the boy has yet to be questioned about the incident and the investigation continues.

"If the victim's mother gives investigators consent, then an interview will be conducted. Investigators need the consent first," he stated.

Currently, no new progress has been reported about the shooting incident.

Over a week ago, DPS Commissioner Clement Bermudes confirmed that a law enforcement officer resides in the home and that a service-issued firearm was in the home during the incident. Whether the gun involved in the shooting incident was that service firearm remains a question, though.

In addition, Bermudes said that DPS is collaborating with the Office of the Attorney General's criminal division in this matter.

Meanwhile, DPS remains in contact with the Guam Police Department in terms of the ballistics analysis sought in this case.

"We are still in communication

with the Guam Police Department. As you know, due to the [typhoon] damage in Guam, it's a matter of priorities. Once we receive the results of the examination, we will release it. We understand that this is a high-profile case so we want to be careful and let the analysis reveal exactly what weapon was used," Bermudes earlier said.

The incident happened last May 21. Police stated that the child and another minor in the home were playing with the firearm in question before the boy was shot. It remains unclear who shot the minor, whether he shot himself or if he was accidentally shot by the other minor.

Whitney Collins. "We will be learning more advanced skills such as taking samples from skin lumps to examine under the microscope, and examining fecal and skin parasites using the microscope. This microscope donated by Brabu Pharmacy has a large screen so if we are unsure

of a diagnosis, we can share it with the veterinarian even after they have left to ensure we are still providing high quality care."

"We will also be learning basic procedures to ensure animals are still well-cared for in the absence of a veterinarian on island," said Cabrera.

NMI

From Page 1

Funding for the first-ever MRC State, Territory and Tribal Nations, Representative Organizations for Next Generation, or MRC-STTRONG, grant program is from the American Rescue Plan.

The Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. will use the funds to expand community partnerships with a focus on addressing health disparities, access and functional needs, and other at-risk populations. CHCC will engage partners and communities on assessments, outreach, recruitment and volunteer planning.

"MRC units are a force multiplier for local emergency responses," said assistant secretary for Preparedness and Response Dawn O'Connell. "The ARP-funded awards announced [Friday] will bolster response efforts in communities across the nation, building on the invaluable role that the MRC played during our fight against COVID-19."

The competitive grant was one of 33 awarded by ASPR through the MRC-STTRONG grant program. In March 2023, ASPR first an-

nounced \$50 million in American Rescue Plan funding available for states, territories, tribes, public/private partnerships, and other public entities to expand their MRC network.

The MRC is a national network of 300,000 volunteers organized into approximately 750 local community-based groups committed to improving local emergency response capabilities, reducing vulnerabilities, and building community preparedness and resilience.

MRC units organize and use local volunteers who donate their time and expertise to prepare for and respond to emergencies and to support steady-state preparedness initiatives. They have supported emergency shelter operations and medical care during extreme weather events, organized vaccine clinics and testing sites during the COVID-19 response, provided medical support during large public gatherings, and much more. MRC volunteers also promote community preparedness to improve everyday health and reduce potential public health risks and vulnerabilities.

For more information about MRC, including joining a local MRC unit, visit aspr.hhs.gov/MRC. (PR)

CONTEST

From Page 1

International Food Festival & Beer Garden that was held over the weekend at the Garapan Fishing Base.

Do bested nine others last Saturday night by eating 48 of 200 pieces of chicken wings to claim the title "Ina's Kitchen Fried Chicken eating competition champion." Do was followed closely by Nazario "Omar" Ajoste, while Madge Gai completed the top three.

Along with the title, Do took home \$500 worth of gift certificates. Ajoste took home \$200 in gift certificates while Gai took home \$100 worth of the same prize.

"I have never felt better. Now I'm just trying to think about something sweet to eat for dessert," said Do after receiving his award.

To prepare for the contest, Do did not eat the entire day leading up to the contest. He also watched a few videos on YouTube to get some pointers on how to get ahead of the competition.

"I don't know that I did too much prepping. I watched a few YouTube videos on [efficient] ways to eat chicken wings and I didn't eat anything since the night before the competition," he said.

For those interested in joining next year's competition, Do said he will be back next year to defend his title.

"I have to defend my crown. It was a ton of fun and thanks to everyone for putting this all together," he said.

Chris Concepcion, Marianas Visitors Authority managing director, said in an interview that he was very happy

with the outcome of the event despite plans for a celebrity eater joining the competition not pulling through.

"For the Ina's Kitchen Fried Chicken eating competition, the turnout was great. There were nine contestants. Although nobody finished the 200 pieces, we're glad to see the enthusiasm from the participants. Great turnout, the audience was really excited, we had a big crowd, and the audience was really cheering on our contestants," Concepcion said.

"We were arranging with our partners in Japan to have another celebrity eater come to Saipan but unfortunately with the timing, it didn't work out with the celebrity eater's schedule. There were three we were supposed to bring in for this competition but all three were unable to join. However, they've agreed to send a celebrity eater to Saipan for next year's eating competition. We still want to have that, we want to hype up the crowd and give our local people here the chance to compete against internationally known eaters that compete in these kinds of food challenges," he added.

As for the turnout of Day 2 of the festival, Concepcion said it was amazing as the crowd was even larger than the first night.

"Tonight's turnout was larger than the first night and the first night was pretty large. We're very excited, we're very happy with the turnout, we have two more Saturdays to go and we're very excited," he said.

Next Saturday, Taste of the Marianas will feature a Barbecue Cookoff and on the final Saturday of June, Taste will close off with the HANMI and NMTECH "Bisteak" Cookoff.

OIA awards American Samoa \$2,498,545 grant funding

The U.S. Department of the Interior's Office of Insular Affairs has announced \$2,498,545 in fiscal year 2023 Technical Assistance Program grant funds that will help support American Samoa.

"We are pleased to fund these impactful projects and proposals for the benefit of the people of American Samoa," said assistant secretary for Insular and International Affairs Carmen G. Cantor. "Funds will support business development, port management, grants management, tuna policies, and healthy youth."

Technical Assistance Program grant awards totaling

\$1,684,545 will be awarded to the territorial government as follows:

■ \$325,000 to the Department of Commerce for the Financial Services Market Study/Business Plan project;

■ \$265,000 to the Department of Port Administration for the Port Workflow Invoice System project;

■ \$200,985 to the Department of Commerce for the Building Grant Writing and Grant Administration Capacity project;

■ \$200,000 to the Department of Commerce for the Fisheries Workforce Development and Business Incu-

bation program;

■ \$190,000 to the Office of the Governor for the Modernizing Office Workflow Technology and Information Systems project;

■ \$174,000 to the Department of Marine and Wildlife Resources to support the development of the Tuna Management Policy with the hiring of a senior policy analyst;

■ \$167,400 to the Department of Port Administration for the Harbor Pilot training program;

■ \$122,270 to the Department of Parks and Recreation for the "Parks N Rec Kid" Summer Camp project; and

■ \$39,890 to the American Samoa Telecommunications Authority to provide backup batteries for remote LTE sites.

OIA is also awarding \$814,000 in TAP funding to semi-autonomous agencies, educational institutions, and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation for the benefit of American Samoa as follows:

■ \$275,000 to the American Samoa Power Authority for the Operations Training and Development program;

■ \$239,000 to the Bureau of Reclamation for the Hydraulic Analyses and Water Resource Project to address water security challenges in American Samoa;

■ \$200,000 to the American Samoa Community College for

the Computer Science Technology Equipment project; and

■ \$100,000 to the Lyndon B. Johnson Tropical Medical Center for Management Infor-

mation System Training for IT Technicians.

For more information, visit the OIA website at www.doi.gov/oia. (OIA)

EARTHQUAKE BRIEFS

4.9-magnitude quake in Guam region

At 12:32am on June 8 2023, a report of a 4.9-magnitude earthquake occurred at 13.342°N 145.569°E in the Guam region. Currently, there are no reports of injuries or damages and no tsunami warnings or advisories that were issued by the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center. For more information, contact the CNMI EOC State Warning Point at (670) 237-8000. (PR)

4.4-magnitude quake in Pagan region

At 3:34am on June 6 2023, a report of a 4.4-magnitude earthquake occurred at 18.340°N 145.847°E in the Pagan region, NMI. Currently, there are no reports of injuries or damages and no tsunami warnings or advisories that were issued by the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center. For more information, contact the CNMI EOC State Warning Point at (670) 237-8000. (PR)



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INVITATION FOR BID (IFB)
NMHC IFB 2023-006

(This ad is paid for NMHC with HUD funds)

BID SUBMISSION DATE: July 05, 2023, 10:00 a.m.

RENOVATION OF CHCC-CGC SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT AND RECOVERY AND TRANSITIONAL LIVING CENTER BUILDINGS

Project Package will be available on June 05, 2023, at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, during regular working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) Monday thru Friday except CNMI holidays. A non-refundable payment of One-Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) is required for each set of the project package. Payment must be made payable to NMHC and receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the project package at the reception counter.

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A Mandatory Pre-Bid Conference will be held at the NMHC Central Office Conference Room located in Garapan, Saipan on **June 13, 2023, 10:00 a.m.** In addition, a Mandatory site Visit/Inspection of the project site will be conducted immediately after the Pre-Bid Conference. Failure to attend both the Mandatory Pre-bid conference and the Mandatory site Visit/Inspection will be considered a non-responsive bidder.

For more information, contact Mr. Jacob Muna, Office Manager, at (670) 234-9447 or via email at officemanager@nmhc.gov.net during business hours, 7:30am – 4:30pm Monday through Friday, except CNMI holidays.

/s/ JESSE S. PALACIOS
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/s/ MERCED "MARCIE" M. TOMOKANE
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COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

PUBLIC NOTICE

This Notice is paid by the NMHC with HUD funds.

NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT AND NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS 06/01/2023

Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Northern Marianas Housing Corporation
Saipan MP, 96950
Telephone(s): (670)234-9447/6866

These notices shall satisfy the above-cited two separate but related procedural notification requirements.

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or after June 17, 2023, the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands will submit a request to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Washington D.C., for the release of Community Development Block Grant - Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Act, 2019 P.L. 116-20, enacted on January 27, 2020, announced via Federal Register Notice, to undertake the following activity and purposes in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands:

Project/Activity Type	Purpose	Location	Total Project Cost
Dandan Rentals • The "Dandan Rentals" project proposes to build a two-story apartment consisting of four units with three bedrooms in each unit.	Affordable Rental Housing	Dandan, Saipan	Approximately \$700,000.00 of CDBG-DR funds; no other funds are to be used

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands has determined that the above-listed project will have no significant impact on the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) is not required. Additional project information is contained in the Environmental Review Record (ERR) on the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) website at www.nmhc.gov.net or NMHC Community Development Block Grant - Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) website at www.cnmi-cdbgdr.com; or on file at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan or NMHC CDBG-DR Office in Beach Road, Chalan Laulau, Saipan, examined during regular work hours, Monday through Friday except CNMI Holidays, from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to Northern Marianas Housing Corporation. You may submit comments to the following options: via mail to P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950; direct delivery to the central office in Garapan, Saipan or drop-box located in front of the building; and via email at officemanager@nmhc.gov.net. All comments received by June 16, 2023, 4:30 p.m. will be considered by the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands prior to authorizing the submission of a request for release of funds. Comments should specify which Notice they are addressing.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

The Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands certifies to the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Washington D.C. that the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and Governor Arnold I. Palacios consent to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process, and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. The U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Washington D.C. approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 and related laws and authorities, and allows the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands to use Program Funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

The U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Washington D.C will accept objections to its release of fund and the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands certification for a period of fifteen days following the anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if they are on one of the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands; (b) the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR part 58; (c) the grant recipient or other participants in the development process have committed funds, incurred costs or undertaken activities not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD); or (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58, Sec. 58.76) and shall be addressed to Ms. Tennille Smith Parker, DRSI Division Director, HUD, via email at Tennille.S.Parker@hud.gov or via telephone (202)402-4649. Potential objectors should contact e U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

/s/
Arnold I. Palacios
Governor of the CNMI

CUC ADVISORIES

Scheduled power service interruption tomorrow

There will be a scheduled power service interruption on Tuesday, June 13, 2023, from 9am to 1pm, along Pale Arnold Drive, Rte. 30

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

GILL BLAS :
CONDOMINIUM OWNERS
ASSOCIATION, :
Plaintiff, : Civil
vs. : Action Case
T.R.C., LTD., : No. 23-0023
HARUMI SHIRAGA, :
KOUSSEI FUJIWARA, : SUMMONS
AND SHIMA OSADA :
Defendants. :

TO SHIMA OSADA:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is on file with the Court, within thirty (30) days after service of the Summons upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to the Plaintiff's attorney, Seman Law Offices, LLC, whose physical address is JET Realty Building, Suite 204, Gualo Rai, Saipan and whose mailing address is P.O. Box 10001 PMB 168, Saipan, MP 96950 as soon as practical after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of Court by messenger or Mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to file an answer in accordance with this Summons, Judgement by Default may be taken against you for relief in the Complaint.

Dated: February 13, 2023

By: /s/
Clerk of the Superior Court

■ **Area(s) affected:** Lower Base Drive (Saipan Ice, NMTI, Recycling Station), Tanapag, San Roque, As Matuis, and Marpi

■ **Momentary** from 9am to 9:30am and between 12:30pm to 1pm

■ **Purpose:** For the line crew to replace a wooden pole to concrete along Pale Arnold Road Rte. 30 adjacent to the traffic light by the Saipan Ice and Water Co.

■ **Water well(s) affected:** MQ-1, MQ-3B, MQ-5, MQ-8, MQ-11B, MQ-13, MQ-14, MQ-15, MQ-16 and the As Matuis Booster

■ **Wastewater facilities affected:** T1, T2, SR1, SR2, SR3

■ **Traffic light(s) affected:** By the Saipan Ice & Water Company

For the safety of our crew, motorist are advised to use caution while driving in the area.

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. continues to work diligently to minimize any inconvenience to its customers.

For more information, contact the automated CUC hotline at (670) 236-4333 or contact our Customer Service at (670) 664-4282 or visit our website at www.cucgov.org and monitor our Facebook page for the latest updates at www.facebook.com/CommonwealthUtilitiesCorporation. (PR)

Rescheduled power

service interruption on Thursday

There will be a scheduled power service interruption on Thursday, June 15, 2023, from 9am to 1pm, in Garapan.

■ **Area(s) Affected:** Partial area of Garapan on Beach Road, Kadena Di Amor St, and Chichirica Ave

■ **Purpose:** For the line crew to replace a defective pole

■ **Momentary** from 9am to 10am and between 12:30pm to 1pm

■ **Purpose:** For the line crew to create a double dead-end to minimize affected areas on future outages and to connect jumper to the double dead-end to re-energize

■ **Area(s) affected:** Partial area of Garapan on Beach Road, Kadena Di Amor St., and Chichirica Ave

■ **No water wells, wastewater facilities, nor traffic lights will be affected.**

For the safety of our crew, motorist are advised to use caution while driving in the area.

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. continues to work diligently to minimize any inconvenience to its customers.

For more information, contact our automated CUC hotline at (670) 236-4333 or contact our Customer Service at (670) 664-4282 or visit our website at www.cucgov.org and monitor our Facebook page for the latest updates at www.facebook.com/CommonwealthUtilitiesCorporation. (PR)

MOBILE OUTREACH CLINIC SCHEDULE

JUNE 2

Adult Wellness Check

Update on personal medical history, blood pressure check, glucose check, resources & referrals

Nutrition Assistance Program , As Lito from 8AM - 11:30 AM

JUNE 8

Pride Clinic

In collaboration with Pride Marianas for individuals interested in consultation for hormonal therapy, HIV/STD Testing, resources & referrals.

Northern Marianas College , As Terlaje from 5PM - 8PM

JUNE 13 22

Child Wellness Check

For children 0-17 years old. Measurements and growth, anticipatory guidance, resources & referrals

Tanapag Youth Center from 1PM - 4:30PM

San Vicente Youth Center from 1PM - 4:30 PM

JUNE 28

Women's Wellness Check

For women who haven't seen a healthcare provider longer than 1 year, pap smears, breast exams, pre/post partum care, resources & referrals

New Kagman Market from 8AM - 11:30 AM

JUNE IS LGBTQ+ PRIDE MONTH

#LOVEWINS!

(670) 234-8950 www.chcc.health @cnmichcc

WHAT TO BRING:

- INSURANCE CARD (Medicaid and most private insurances accepted)
- VALID PHOTO ID (Driver's license, Passport, Mayor's ID, etc.)

CNMI has received \$73.43M FEMA COVID-19 relief as of June 6, 2023

As of June 6, 2023, the CNMI has received \$73.43 million in total Federal Emergency Management Agency COVID-19 relief, according to Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (D-MP) over the weekend. This developed after FEMA announced Tuesday that DHSEM will get \$1,086,225 more in COVID-19 relief to provide for the Marianas’ protective measures during the pandemic, including opening an Emergency Operation Center that directed and coordinated resources and response activities and disseminated public information on health and safety measures. Sablan disclosed over the weekend in his *e-kilili* newsletter that, as of June 6, 2023, DHSEM has received \$56.80 million in total FEMA grants for COVID-19 relief efforts so far.

Guam governor, delegate thank NMI

Gov. Arnold I. Palacios has received separate calls from Guam Gov. Lou Leon Guerrero and Delegate James Moylan (R-GU) earlier this week, expressing their gratitude to Palacios for the CNMI’s assistance in Guam’s typhoon recovery efforts. “On behalf of the people of the CNMI, I expressed continued support to Gov. Leon Guerrero and Rep. Moylan as they navigate the recovery process,” said Palacios in a statement Friday. “We are all part of the Marianas family and we will stand by their side every step of the way just as family members do for one another during challenging and difficult times.” Palacios also stressed that Guam partners, including the Guam Power Authority, were quick to lend their resources and assistance when the CNMI was impacted by past storms. So it was only natural, he said, that the CNMI reciprocated the assistance and help to Guam. He also emphasized his administration’s aims to expand the collaboration and partnership between the CNMI and Guam. “We are mobilizing other assets, including equipment, to assist in Guam’s recovery efforts,” added Palacios. A week ago, the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. sent a line crew to Guam to assist with power restoration efforts. Several relief efforts that have been organized by different CNMI agencies and nonprofits have also sent or are in the process of sending donated goods and supplies. *(Saipan Tribune)*

VID-19 relief efforts so far. Sablan said the CNMI government’s lost wages program also received \$7.72 million; the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp., \$6.89 million; the Office of the Governor, \$1.92 million; and Funeral Assistance Applicants, \$87,531. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

GILL BLAS :
CONDOMINIUM OWNERS
ASSOCIATION, :
Plaintiff, : Civil
vs. : Action Case
T.R.C., LTD., : No. 23-0023
HARUMI SHIRAGA, :
KOUSEI FUJIWARA, : SUMMONS
AND SHIMA OSADA, :
Defendants. :

TO T.R.C., LTD.:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is on file with the Court, within thirty (30) days after service of the Summons upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to the Plaintiff’s attorney, Sema Law Offices, LLC, whose physical address is JET Realty Building, Suite 204, Gualo Rai, Saipan and whose mailing address is P.O. Box 10001 PMB 168, Saipan, MP 96950 as soon as practical after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of Court by messenger or Mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to file an answer in accordance with this Summons, Judgement by Default may be taken against you for relief in the Complaint.

Dated: February 13, 2023

By: /s/
Clerk of the Superior Court

COMMONWEALTH UTILITIES CORPORATION
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-23-023

Supply and Delivery of Permanent Meter Test Bench
And Portable Meter Test Bench

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids for the supply and delivery of one (1) permanent meter test bench and one (1) portable meter test bench for the island of Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, to assist water operation staff with CUC’s Sustainable Water Infrastructure Management Strategy (SWIMS) program.

The project is funded by a grant from the United States of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of approval for project award from USEPA.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of **\$200.00** (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by site visits will be held on **June 15, 2023 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) original and Five (5) copies of the bid must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked “CUC-IFB-23-023, Supply and Delivery of Permanent Meter Test Bench and Portable Meter Test Bench” to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on June 28, 2023**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement this form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

A Bid Guarantee of not less than fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier’s check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers’ questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI’s Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Bidders are required to submit clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI’s Insurance code.*

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor’s preparation of a bid under the contract.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered Proponents and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 a.m. (ChST) on June 16, 2023** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator via email address, manny.sablan@cucgov.org, with a copy to Nicolette Villagomez, CUC Water/Wastewater Engineer via email address nicolette.villagomez@cucgov.org and to Marcela Tenorio, P&S, Senior Administrative Technician - marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

BETTINA G. TERLAJE
Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Administrator

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

PUBLIC NOTICE

This Notice is paid by the NMHC with HUD funds.

NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT AND
NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS
06/01/2023

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REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or after June 17, 2023, the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands will submit a request to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Washington D.C., for the release of Community Development Block Grant - Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Act, 2019 P.L. 116-20, enacted on January 27, 2020, announced via Federal Register Notice, to undertake the following activity and purposes in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands:

Project/Activity Type	Purpose	Location	Total Project Cost
WB Estates, Chalan Piao	Affordable Rental Housing	Chalan Piao, Saipan	Approximately \$250,000.00 of CDBG-DR funds; no other funds are to be used

• The “WB Estates, Chalan Piao” project proposes to build one housing unit, consisting of three bedrooms.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands has determined that the above-listed project will have no significant impact on the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) is not required. Additional project information is contained in the Environmental Review Record (ERR) on the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) website at www.nmhcgov.net or NMHC Community Development Block Grant - Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) website at www.cnmi-cdbgdr.com ; or on file at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan or NMHC CDBG-DR Office in Beach Road, Chalan Laulau, Saipan, examined during regular work hours, Monday through Friday except CNMI Holidays, from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to Northern Marianas Housing Corporation. You may submit comments to the following options: via mail to P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950; direct delivery to the central office in Garapan, Saipan or drop-box located in front of the building; and via email at officemanager@nmhcgov.net. All comments received by June 16, 2023, 4:30 p.m. will be considered by the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands prior to authorizing the submission of a request for release of funds. Comments should specify which Notice they are addressing.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

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OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

The U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Washington D.C will accept objections to its release of fund and the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands certification for a period of fifteen days following the anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if they are on one of the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands; (b) the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR part 58; (c) the grant recipient or other participants in the development process have committed funds, incurred costs or undertaken activities not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD); or (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58, Sec. 58.76) and shall be addressed to Ms. Tennille Smith Parker, DRSI Division Director, HUD, via email at Tennille.S.Parker@hud.gov or via telephone (202)402-4649. Potential objectors should contact e U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

/s/
Arnold I. Palacios
Governor of the CNMI

Opinion

Hafa Adair

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
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MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

This wildfire smoke disaster won't be the last

Tens of millions of people—from the Great Lakes to Long Island to as far south as the Chesapeake Bay—have been breathing unhealthy air from Canada's wildfires. This week, New York became the most polluted major city in the world. Even as air quality improves in the coming days, the dangerous health effects will linger and the haze could return. Health officials need to prepare for the grim reality that wildfires are becoming more common—and more dangerous.

Canada's forests have been burning for weeks with little sign of abating. At present, most of the 400 active blazes are out of control, contributing to the country's worst wildfire season on record. While such fires aren't unusual during the summer, this year's spread and intensity is virtually unprecedented. Large swathes of the country had experienced record heat and severe droughts in the preceding weeks.

The health risks are serious. Wildfire smoke is a blend of gas and fine particles that can penetrate the lungs and bloodstream. Some research suggests it's more toxic than the exhaust from a tailpipe. Common symptoms for healthy people include coughing, throat irritation, stinging eyes, wheezing and headaches. For those at greater risk—such as the elderly, asthmatic children, pregnant women and so on—even short-term exposure can lead to hospitalization and, in some cases, death.

States prone to wildfires, such as California, have a tested preparedness playbook that includes clear guidance to stay indoors, evacuation plans, and a stash of high-quality masks, such as N95s. (Surgical masks used during COVID-19 aren't very effective.) Yet the northern U.S. was largely caught flat-footed. Fire forecasting is notoriously imprecise, and coordination between meteorologists, forestry officials and public-health workers tends to be weak.

There's growing evidence that changes in climate and land use are making wildfires more frequent and intense, with extreme fires estimated to rise 14% by 2030. One recent study estimated that annual exposure to wildfire smoke results in more than 30,000 deaths globally; another calculated that the long-term health costs imposed by wildfire exposure in the U.S. from 2008 to 2012 may have been as high as \$450 billion.

The worst of the smoke will likely dissipate in the coming days. That's no excuse for complacency. A serious preparedness effort should include stockpiling masks for distribution at schools, police precincts, community centers and other public spaces, for starters. In major cities, it should also involve longer-term investment in air-filtration systems, air conditioning for the most vulnerable, and clean-air shelters for those in need. States should also establish labor protections for outdoor workers, even on a temporary basis, where federal standards have fallen short.

The seemingly apocalyptic haze that befell New York City and much of the northern U.S. came as a surprise this week. Next time, it shouldn't.

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"RELAX, WE'RE USED TO IT."

Why Donald Trump's federal indictment is as breathtaking as it was inevitable

In one sense, it was breathtaking: the first ever indictment of a former president by the Department of Justice he once oversaw—and therefore the most important federal charges in U.S. history.

In another, it was expected. Once Donald Trump had received a formal target letter from the department, his fate was effectively sealed.

But that was only the latest in a series of recent signs that charges were inevitable. The months and years of questions about whether the Biden administration should or would indict the 45th and would-be next president—and whether the department would stay its hand for politics, the good of the republic or some other reason—were settled when Attorney General Merrick Garland appointed Jack Smith as special counsel.

From that point on, the investigation of the former president's retention of classified documents has followed the well-worn path that the federal government would tread for any defendant accused of behavior anywhere close to as brazen as Trump's over the last two years. Smith pursued the case as he would have any other, and that led ineluctably to the indictment unsealed Friday.

Almost as unavoidably, it will also lead to the department urging a court to impose significant prison time on the former president if he is convicted. Trump's last chance to bargain for less grave charges came and went in his lawyers' last meeting with Justice officials on Monday. Now he is in the unenviable position of any other defendant charged with such serious crimes.

Indeed, the 37-count indictment includes 31 counts of the almost astonishingly serious charge of violating the Espionage Act, compounding the severity of the case and the sense of national betrayal. The government alleges that Trump willfully kept sensitive information about U.S. and foreign defense capabilities and shared classified information with people who did not have security clearances.

It also charges a conspiracy to obstruct justice involving Trump and his valet Walt Nauta, who reportedly lied to FBI agents about the presence of sensitive documents, only to fess up during subsequent questioning. Nauta, who was also charged, is likely to be an important government witness—and, given his long-standing loyalty to Trump, a very credible one.

The indictment also confirms that former Trump lawyer Evan Corcoran will be another important government witness, perhaps the most important. He is the source of a series of incendiary and incriminating statements that the indictment attributes to Trump, including "I don't want anybody looking through my boxes" and "Wouldn't it be better if we just told

By **HARRY LITMAN**

Los Angeles Times

Harry Litman is the host of the Talking Feds podcast. @harrylitman



Trump

them we didn't have anything here?"

The relocation of the unprecedented case from Washington, D.C., to Florida is likely to make the case that much stronger. Although it may sound like a procedural detail, a defendant has a constitutionally guaranteed right to be tried where a crime was allegedly committed. A venue mistake could result in consequences as serious as a case being thrown out with no opportunity for retrial. So the department made the strategic call that the case should proceed in the Southern District of Florida, which includes Trump's Mar-a-Lago estate and the scene of his allegedly illegal record retention.

The location also has the effect of underscoring the most damning aspect of the case for Trump. His knowingly taking documents from the White House was almost certainly criminal; his brazen and quintessentially Trumpian refusal to return them, even to the point of lying to the government and involving others in the concealment, was worse.

The venue does heighten the risk that an ardently pro-Trump juror will simply refuse to convict him on any grounds, which given the mind-boggling strength of the evidence might be the defendant's only hope. But the justice system has already proved resilient, having produced another indictment of the ex-president, in New York, and an unfavorable civil verdict in the E. Jean Carroll case.

With the venue issue put to rest, and with courts in the Florida district known for moving fairly quickly, a trial is likely to unfold sooner if the Trump-appointed judge initially assigned to the case doesn't cause unforeseen delays. It's even possible that Trump will be convicted by a federal jury before the 2024 election, for which he remains the overwhelmingly favored front-runner for the Republican

See **WHY** on Page 9

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Can a four-day workweek really work? Many companies have already learned the answer

By JULIET SCHOR AND WEN FAN
LOS ANGELES TIME

In 1940, Congress amended the Fair Labor Standards Act to limit the standard workweek to 40 hours, with any additional hours eligible for overtime. Despite a more than threefold increase in productivity since, the 40-hour week has remained unchanged for 83 years.

But it may be changing at last. 2023 could just be the year of the four-day, 32-hour week.

Over the first few months of the year, Google searches for information about the four-day week rose by a factor of five. The media have produced hundreds of stories on companies that are offering 32-hour schedules. California and other states have considered legislation to enact or study a four-day week, and Riverside Rep. Mark Takano has introduced a bill on the subject in Congress.

In Europe, national and regional governments have pilot four-day week programs in progress, and the United Arab Emirates has shifted public-sector employees to a 4 ½-day schedule. In February, we released findings from the world's largest trial of a four-day week with no reduction in pay, involving some 60 organizations in Britain across a range of sectors from public relations to healthcare to manufacturing. The results were striking: Employees and companies using the new schedule are thriving.

Why are reduced working hours suddenly on the agenda after years of not being taken seriously? The most important reason is the pandemic.

Leaders of the first organization to be part of our research attributed their decision to the COVID-driven shift to remote work. Dr. Adam Husney, the chief executive of the health information firm

Healthwise, explained: "Once we realized we could trust our employees with where they work, we also realized we could trust them about how much time they work."

Before the pandemic, there was a lot of talk about paying people for their output rather than their hours, but organizations honored the principle mostly in the breach. Once people are off-site, however, paying for productivity rather than time makes more sense, as least for employees who aren't subject to draconian surveillance measures.

The pandemic also turbo-charged the four-day week by creating much more hardship for workers. While the work-life interface was difficult to navigate before COVID, the contagion itself and the complications of merging work and family life led to record levels of stress. The latest published research from Future Forum, based on a 2022 survey, found that 42% of employees polled in the United States and five other countries said they were burned out, a 4-percentage-point increase compared with just a year earlier.

Workers are responding with their feet. For Healthwise's Husney, a staff exodus in June 2021 was the impetus for closing on Fridays. The labor market is experiencing not only the so-called Great Resignation—record numbers of people quitting their jobs—but also extremely high numbers of unfilled positions. Organizations are having difficulty retaining workers and scrambling to fill openings.

Raising pay isn't always enough, and not all organizations can afford to do so. Turnover is also extremely expensive. It's one reason much of the interest in the four-day workweek is coming from healthcare organizations, where burnout and res-

ignations among nurses have become endemic.

We also think a quieter evolution away from the five-day schedule is underway. Many organizations have already reduced summer schedules by shortening or eliminating Friday hours. No-meeting Fridays have enabled more remote workers to take some of the day for themselves under the radar. We discovered that Friday morning classes at an exercise studio in our area have become very popular, thanks partly to people who reported being "at work."

Our research suggests that the four-day, 32-hour week is not only feasible; it's better for workers and employers.

In collaboration with the nonprofit 4 Day Week Global, we've been tracking what happens when companies switch to the curtailed schedule with no reduction in pay after a two-month process of figuring out how to maintain productivity and performance. We've found that employee well-being is markedly improved. Of more than 100 companies with thousands of workers around the world, nearly 70% experienced reduced rates of burnout.

Stress fell. Reported physical and mental health improved. People felt less anxious and fatigued, exercised more and slept better. Their life satisfaction rose, and conflicts among work, family and life plummeted.

But it's not just workers who benefited. On a 10-point scale, companies rated the success of the trials at a robust 8.5 or higher. Perhaps the most persuasive metric is that most are opting to continue with the shorter schedule. Only a handful of the organizations that have participated in the trials have reverted to the five-day week.

Many will continue to oppose a shortened work schedule because it sounds un-American or unprofitable. But we're finding out that modern challenges make the four-day workweek not only possible but better for workers, employers and society.

Juliet Schor is a professor of sociology and Wen Fan is an associate professor of sociology at Boston College.

June 12 is Philippine Independence Day

LITERARY NOOK

By JOEY CONNOLLY
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Joey aka Pepe Batbon Connolly is a retired educator who taught in the CNMI, NOLA, and LVNV. He is a sonnet practitioner who enjoys stargazing.



June 12, 2023 is Philippine Independence Day; PH became independent in 1898.

To help celebrate PH Independence Day here is a poem by José Rizal, a Philippine national hero whose writings influenced the rebellion that won independence for the Philippine archipelago. The Spanish government executed Dr. Rizal in Manila on Dec. 30, 1896.

The theme of Rizal's *Kundiman* is his intense love for his motherland. His words reflected his optimism that the Philippines would be freed from injustice and bondage.

Kundiman by Jose Rizal

Now mute indeed are tongue and heart
love shies away, joy stands apart.
Neglected by its leaders and defeated,
The country was subdued and it submitted.

But, O, the sun will shine again!
Itself the land shall disenchain;
And once more round the world
with growing praise
shall sound the name of the Tagalog race.

We shall pour out our blood in a great flood
to liberate the parent sod;
but 'til that day arrives for which we weep,
love shall be mute, desire shall sleep.

Who deserves welfare? That's the wrong question

The latest deal to avert a U.S. government default, with its new work requirements for welfare programs, illustrates a fundamental flaw in America's social safety net: It's far too focused on identifying the worthy, to the detriment of the needy.

By official measures, nearly 40 million Americans are living in poverty. Yet not a single public program serves them on that criterion alone. To qualify for benefits, they must also be something else, such as old, disabled, or pregnant. Even then, access isn't categorical: People must get through a labyrinth of multi-contingent eligibility tests, which might include anything from the size of their savings account balance to some minimum time spent on work-related activities. And if there's a natural disaster, everything can change.

Worse, different programs don't often work together. Consider children who age out of foster care, typically at 18. The new debt-ceiling deal exempts them from the work requirements it imposes on recipients of food stamps (officially the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, or SNAP), but only until they turn 24. They're eligible for Medicaid until age 26, but only if they were in the program on their 18th birthday. They can apply for housing assistance until age 21, but it's not guaranteed and depends on school enrollment and special education vouchers, which they must use before age 26. Navigating all this would confound anyone, let alone an 18-year-old with no parents.

Why the complexity? To borrow a concept from statistics, the US social welfare system is far too concerned about avoiding Type 1 errors—that is, identifying people as needy when they actually aren't. This requires a whole phalanx of rules aimed at figuring out who is worthy, a definition that can vary wildly depending on one's ideological leanings, among other things. Veterans and their families are almost always considered worthy, while undocumented immigrants rarely are. In many states, drug felons are subject to a lifetime prohibition from SNAP and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, or TANF, while no other type of felon is so distinguished.

As a result, the system is much more likely to make Type 2 errors—that is, failing to identify and provide for the truly needy. This can happen because the rules are exclusionary or simply too burdensome. Across the country, millions of eligible families and children fail to participate in programs such as SNAP and Medicaid. As of 2020, just 21% of families in poverty received TANF benefits, down from 68% when the program was enacted in 1996.

Nowhere is the fear of Type 1 error more apparent than in the end of the expanded Child Tax Credit. It provided income stability to tens of millions of children, halving child poverty in the process. But it was cut over concerns that potentially 500,000 parents might work less or use the money to buy drugs. The overwhelming ben-

By KATHRYN A. EDWARDS
Bloomberg Opinion

Kathryn Anne Edwards is a labor economist and independent policy consultant.



efit of protecting children and investing in them was deemed not worth the risk of subsidizing some possibly unworthy parents.

And perhaps nowhere are the Type 2 errors more insidious than in work requirements for benefits. Reams of evidence suggest that they do not encourage work. On the contrary, they are more likely to impose hardship and possibly increase poverty. When combined with a lack of adequate labor protections, they can even border on exploitation. The minimum wage hasn't risen in 14 years, and employees increasingly aren't paid the earnings to which they are legally entitled. The Labor Department has less enforcement staff than it did 50 years ago, when the labor force was half as large—a troubling trend that the Government Accountability Office, the federal government's performance auditor, highlighted in 2020.

Defining worthiness is not a goal that the government can achieve. It can invest in children, it can protect workers from illegal labor practices, it can help low-income families with basic needs. It can't reach into households and pluck out those whom it likes best, and it leaves us all worse off when it tries.

WHY






From Page 8

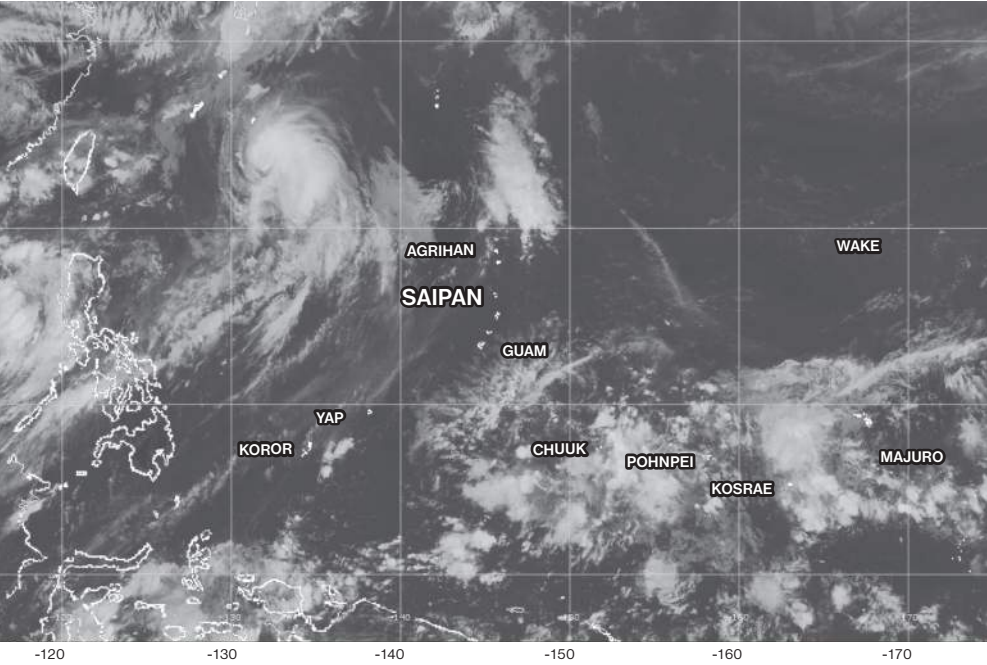
nomination, though his appeals would probably continue.

The Department of Justice has shown the necessary steeliness and dedication to make history in undertaking this prosecution of a former president. And with Smith still investigating Trump's even more outrageous misconduct on and before Jan. 6, 2021, this first such prosecution may well not be the last.

Next week, meanwhile, Smith's deputies are expected to take their places at the table near the jury box in a federal courtroom and announce their appearance on behalf of the people in United States vs. Trump. Whatever else happens in the coming months, it's a proud moment and a banner achievement for the rule of law in this country.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN									
TODAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY	
									
Scattered showers and thunderstorms. Partly sunny		Partly sunny		Mostly sunny		Mostly sunny		Partly cloudy	
86°	79°	86°	78°	88°	77°	88°	78°	88°	78°
YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE									



PICTURE TIME: 8:11 AM, SUNDAY, JUNE 11, 2023

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Satellite shows just a few clouds and almost no showers within the Marianas Waters this morning. The Ipan buoy reveals a 3 to 4 trade-wind swell from just north of east. Wave model data suggests a 3 to 4 foot west swell from distant Typhoon Guchol. This would indicate combined seas of 4 to 5 feet.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA ▲ ▼ °F		
Guam and Rota	Scattered Thunderstorms	87° / 80°
Palau	Scattered Thunderstorms	83° / 76°
Yap	Mostly Cloudy	84° / 78°
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	88° / 79°
Pohnpei	Showers	83° / 77°
Kosrae	Cloudy	82° / 79°
Majuro	Thunderstorms	85° / 79°

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	5:46 AM	6:47 PM
Tuesday	5:46 AM	6:47 PM
Wednesday	5:46 AM	6:47 PM
Thursday	5:46 AM	6:48 PM
Friday	5:46 AM	6:48 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	1:09 AM	1:30 PM	-
Tuesday	1:47 AM	2:23 PM	-
Wednesday	2:26 AM	3:16 PM	-
Thursday	3:07 AM	4:11 PM	-
Friday	3:50 AM	5:07 PM	-

AROUND THE GLOBE ▲ ▼ °F		
Auckland	Mostly Sunny	61° / 49°
Beijing	Mostly Sunny	88° / 65°
Hong Kong	Thunderstorms	86° / 81°
Honolulu	Mostly Sunny	86° / 75°
London	Partly Cloudy	67° / 52°
Los Angeles	Sunny	87° / 61°
Manila	Thunderstorms	92° / 79°
Melbourne	Mostly Cloudy	62° / 49°
Miami	Thunderstorms	86° / 78°
New York	Mostly Cloudy	82° / 68°
Osaka	Thunderstorms	76° / 68°
Paris	Partly Cloudy	85° / 61°
Busan	Mostly Cloudy	80° / 72°
Rome	Sunny	91° / 66°
Salem	Sunny	90° / 64°
San Francisco	Mostly Cloudy	61° / 56°
Seoul	Mostly Sunny	82° / 62°
Tokyo	Cloudy	84° / 73°
Washington, DC	Showers	76° / 69°

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY FEET		
2:56 AM	High Tide	2.16
9:38 AM	Low Tide	0.85
2:59 PM	High Tide	1.62
8:58 PM	Low Tide	0.72

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 1, 2023							
DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA117	9:50AM	10:30AM	Daily	UA174	8:00AM	8:50AM	Daily
UA156	6:55PM	7:40PM	1, 4 effective June 5	UA112	5:00PM	5:50PM	1, 4 effective June 5
SAIPAN- NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
UA824	7:25AM	9:55AM	1, 3, 5	UA825	9:25PM	1:50AM+1	2, 4, 7
GUAM-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-GUAM			
PR 111	5:55AM	7:55AM	Daily	UA184	10:25PM	4:25AM+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA193	6:55PM	10:55PM	2, 5 via Palau	UA189	10:25PM	6:10AM+1	2, 5 via Palau
UA183	7:15PM	9:10PM	Daily	PR110	10:30PM	4:25AM+1	Daily
				UA192	11:50PM	5:35AM+1	2, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ626/703	4:20AM	10:35PM	1, 4, 5, 7 via ICN	UA184/174	10:25PM	8:45AM+1	1, 3, 4, 6,7 via Guam
UA117/183	9:50AM	9:10PM	Daily via Guam	UA192/174	10:25PM	8:45AM+1	2, 5 via Palau, Guam
UA117/193	9:50AM	10:55PM	2, 5 via Guam, Palau	UA184/174	11:50PM	8:45AM+1	2, 5 via Guam
SAIPAN-INCHEON (ICN)				INCHEON (ICN)-SAIPAN			
TW308	3:15AM	7:00AM	Daily	7C3406	9:30AM	3:10PM	Daily
OZ626	4:20AM	7:55AM	1, 4, 5, 7	TW307	8:30PM	2:15AM+1	Daily
7C3403	4:45AM	8:35AM	Daily	OZ625	9:25PM	2:55AM+1	3, 4, 6, 7
7C3405	4:10PM	7:45PM	Daily	7C3405	10:10PM	3:40AM+1	Daily

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines; PR, Philippine Airlines; TW, T'Way Air; OZ, Asiana Airlines; 7C, Jeju Air; BX, Air Busan • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.							
FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 1, 2022							
SAIPAN TO ROTA				ROTA TO SAIPAN			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY	FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
1301	8:30	9:00	Daily	3101	9:30	10:00	Daily
1302	11:00	11:30	Mon/Wed/Fri	3102	13:00	13:30	Tues/Thurs/ Sat/Sun
1302	12:00	12:30	Tues/Thurs/ Sat/Sun	3102	14:00	14:30	Mon/Wed/Fri
1303	15:30	16:00	Daily	3103	16:30	17:00	Daily
ROTA TO GUAM				GUAM TO ROTA			
LIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY	FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
3401	12:00	12:30	Mon/Wed/Fri	4301	13:00	13:30	Mon/Wed/Fri
SAIPAN TO TINIAN				TINIAN TO SAIPAN			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY	FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
1202	8:00	8:15	Daily	2102	8:30	8:45	Daily
1203	9:00	9:15	Daily	2103	9:30	9:45	Daily
1204	10:00	10:15	Daily	2104	10:30	10:45	Daily
1208	14:00	14:15	Daily	2108	14:30	14:45	Daily
1209	15:00	15:15	Daily	2109	15:30	15:45	Daily
1210	16:00	16:15	Daily	2110	16:30	16:45	Daily
1211	17:00	17:15	Daily	2111	17:30	17:45	Daily

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

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Marines assist in Guam typhoon recovery efforts

By EMILY SAXTON
36TH WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

ANDERSEN AIR FORCE BASE, Guam—U.S. Marines from Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 16 helped restore the island of Guam after Typhoon Mawar while on their way back to their homeport, Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, California. Typhoon Mawar was a Category 4 storm, producing winds of at least 130 miles per hour, making it one of the stronger typhoons to hit Guam in decades.

One hundred twenty-four U.S. Marines and sailors were on-board SS *Curtiss* in support of exercise Balikatan 23 in the Philippines. While on their retrograde back to MCAS Miramar, the ship stopped in Guam on May 14, 2023, to drop off an aviation support package of aeronautical equipment and personnel to support the 3d Marine Aircraft Wing summer exercise series.

When Typhoon Mawar hit the island 10 days later, MALS-16 jumped into action, providing help to Joint Region Marianas to recover from the storm.

“As visitors to the island, we felt compelled to provide immediate response to the local community and the entire JRM team,” said U.S. Marine Maj. William Dunst, commander of troops assigned to MALS-16.

MALS-16 teamed up with Task Force 75 and Naval Base Guam to assist with defense support of civilian authorities and base restoration.

“We provided support with two Defense Support of Civil Authorities missions at the Mangilao Solar Panel Substation and the Nimitz Hill reservoir,” said Dunst. “Working as a team with our sister services as well as the local community has been very rewarding and it feels great to physically see the difference we have made so far.”

They have also put in over 2,200 hours of base restoration by clearing debris across Naval Base Guam, Coast Guard Sector Guam, Marine Corps Camp Blaz and Andersen Air Force Base.

4.5-magnitude quake in Anatahan

At 8:46am on June 10, 2023, a report of a 4.5-magnitude earthquake occurred 16.460°N 145.717°E of Anatahan region. Currently, there are no reports of injuries or damages and

no tsunami warnings or advisories were issued by the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center. For more information, contact the CNMI EOC State Warning Point at 237-8000. (PR)

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

GILL BLAS :
CONDOMINIUM OWNERS
ASSOCIATION, :
Plaintiff, : Civil
vs. : Action Case
T.R.C., LTD., : No. 23-0023
HARUMI SHIRAGA, : SUMMONS
KOUSUJI FUJIWARA, AND
SHIMA OSADA :
Defendants. :

TO HARUMI SHIRAGA:
YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is on file with the Court, within thirty (30) days after service of the Summons upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to the Plaintiff's attorney, Sema Law Offices, LLC, whose physical address is JET Realty Building, Suite 204, Gualo Rai, Saipan and whose mailing address is P.O. Box 10001 PMB 168, Saipan, MP 96950 as soon as practical after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of Court by messenger or Mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to file an answer in accordance with this Summons, Judgement by Default may be taken against you for relief in the Complaint.

Dated: February 13, 2023

By: /s/
Clerk of the Superior Court



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

PUBLIC NOTICE

This Notice is paid by the NMHC with HUD funds.

NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT AND NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS 06/01/2023

Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Northern Marianas Housing Corporation
Saipan MP, 96950
Telephone(s): (670)234-9447/6866

These notices shall satisfy the above-cited two separate but related procedural notification requirements.

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or after June 17, 2023, the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands will submit a request to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Washington D.C., for the release of Community Development Block Grant - Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Act, 2019 P.L. 116-20, enacted on January 27, 2020, announced via Federal Register Notice, to undertake the following activity and purposes in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands:

Project/Activity Type	Purpose	Location	Total Project Cost
Canaan-As Lito Housing	Affordable Rental Housing	As Lito, Saipan	Approximately \$6,060,000.00 of CDBG-DR funds; no other funds are to be used
• The "Canaan-As Lito Housing" project proposes to build thirty (30) housing units: two (2) units with one bedroom, six (6) units with two bedrooms, fourteen (14) units with three bedrooms, and eight (8) units with four bedrooms.			

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands has determined that the above-listed project will have no significant impact on the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) is not required. Additional project information is contained in the Environmental Review Record (ERR) on the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) website at www.nmhcgov.net or NMHC Community Development Block Grant - Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) website at www.cnmi-cdbgdr.com; or on file at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan or NMHC CDBG-DR Office in Beach Road, Chalan Laulau, Saipan, examined during regular work hours, Monday through Friday except CNMI Holidays, from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to Northern Marianas Housing Corporation. You may submit comments to the following options: via mail to P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950; direct delivery to the central office in Garapan, Saipan or drop-box located in front of the building; and via email at officemanager@nmhcgov.net. All comments received by June 16, 2023, 4:30 p.m. will be considered by the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands prior to authorizing the submission of a request for release of funds. Comments should specify which Notice they are addressing.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

The Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands certifies to the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Washington D.C. that the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and Governor Arnold I. Palacios consent to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process, and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. The U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Washington D.C. approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 and related laws and authorities, and allows the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands to use Program Funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

The U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Washington D.C will accept objections to its release of fund and the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands certification for a period of fifteen days following the anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if they are on one of the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands; (b) the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR part 58; (c) the grant recipient or other participants in the development process have committed funds, incurred costs or undertaken activities not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD); or (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58, Sec. 58.76) and shall be addressed to Ms. Tennille Smith Parker, DRSI Division Director, HUD, via email at Tennille.S.Parker@hud.gov or via telephone (202)402-4649. Potential objectors should contact e U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

/s/
Arnold I. Palacios
Governor of the CNMI



COMMONWEALTH UTILITIES CORPORATION



INVITATION FOR BIDS CUC-IFB-23-022

SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF FIVE (5) LIGHT-DUTY VEHICLES

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids to supply and deliver five (5) light-duty vehicles to Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, to assist with the project management and inspections for the CUC Water and Wastewater systems upgrades and improvements.

This project is funded by a United States of Environment Protection Agency (USEPA) grant.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of **\$200.00** (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "**CUC-IFB-23-022, Supply and Delivery of Five (5) Light-Duty Vehicles**" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on June 20, 2023** at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before the submission deadline. Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered.

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification should be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid or supply under the contract. The IFB does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the bid under this request, or to procure or contract for goods. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered Proponents and must be submitted in writing **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on June 1, 2023**, to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator, via email manny.sablan@cucgov.org and Christie Sablan at christie.sablan@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids for any reason and waive any defects in the said bids, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All bids submitted shall become the property of CUC.

BETTINA G. TERLAJE
Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Administrator



Sway, third left back row, and GS, center back row, of Japan's hip-hop group Doberman Infinity, back center, attended the Ataari Dinner Show at Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan on April 19, 2023.


MVA

Japan's Doberman Infinity promotes NMI



GS, right, and Sway, left, of Japan's hip-hop group Doberman Infinity visit iconic Managaha on April 20, 2023.

MVA



**NORTHERN MARIANAS COALITION
AGAINST DOMESTIC & SEXUAL VIOLENCE**
P.O. BOX 506689, SAIPAN, MP 96950
PHONE: 670.234.3878

The Northern Marianas Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence's (NMCADSV) mission is to promote, nourish, and sustain a collective movement against violence. All applicants must be familiar with and agree with NMCADSV's mission statement and philosophy regarding the elimination of domestic violence, sexual assault, and violence of all forms.

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position Title:
Salary Range:
Classification:

Program Coordinator
\$14.00/hr. ~ \$18.25/hr.
Full Time, Non-Exempt.
Full Benefits, including paid leave and health insurance.

Job Summary
The Program Coordinator will work with the Executive Director of NMCADSV, Associate Director, and other NMCADSV staff to achieve its mission, goals, and objectives. The Program Coordinator will report to NMCADSV's Associate Director, assist with the daily operations of NMCADSV, and provide support for NMCADSV's programmatic activities. The Program Coordinator will plan and execute activities in relation to NMCADSV's mission and goals, with particular attention to specific activities outlined in corresponding grant applications.

Duties

- Confers with and reports to the Associate Director
- Assists with the coordination of all NMCADSV activities, including training and program development.
- Assists with development of presentation and training materials.
- Conducts presentations and assists with training events.
- Develops and executes community outreach and education activities.
- Assists with program evaluation.
- Maintains relationships and works collaboratively with a variety of organizations.
- Builds and maintains partnerships with community organizations and government agencies.
- Works with community organizations and government agencies to identify and address training needs.
- Attends all meetings (virtual or in-person) as assigned.
- Travels to national and inter-island meetings and conferences, as required or requested.
- Assists in grants management, including the preparation of application packets, gathering data for reports, and preparing reports.
- Performs other duties as assigned.

Minimum Qualifications

- An agreement with NMCADSV's mission statement and philosophy regarding the elimination of domestic and sexual violence
- High School Diploma or Equivalent
- Experience with community organizing and/or outreach
- Experience planning and executing events
- Demonstrated proficiency in written and oral communication
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office Applications and Google Applications
- Ability to manage multiple tasks and deadlines
- Ability to work some nights and weekends
- Experience with assessments and analysis
- Must be able to travel within the CNMI and US Mainland

Highly - Desired Qualifications

- Experience working in social justice or working directly with survivors of domestic violence and/or sexual assault.
- Knowledge of dynamics of sexual violence and/or domestic violence.
- Knowledge of and commitment to culturally relevant, empowerment, and strength-based strategies for eliminating sexual violence and/or domestic violence.
- 1 year or more of documented experience/work with non-profit organizations or volunteerism
- Own transportation, with documented insurance, registration, and a valid driver's license.

How to Apply (Deadline: Wednesday, June 21, 2023 at 5:00 PM)
A Resume and Cover Letter should be submitted on or before 5:00 PM on Wednesday, June 21, 2023. Provide a list (not copies) of any certifications or awards. Late and incomplete submissions will not be considered. Resumes, cover letters, and other documents may be emailed to info@endviolencenmi.org OR delivered to the NMCADSV Office at the Marina Heights I Building in Puerto Rico, Saipan during hours of operation OR mailed to NMCADSV postmarked on or before the deadline.


Applicants who are asked to interview will be asked to bring a copy of their Diploma(s) or equivalent, Police Clearance (dated within 30 days), valid Passport, and a list of references. NMCADSV is an equal opportunity employer. Individuals from under-served communities are encouraged to apply.

This project is supported by Grant No. 15J0VW-21-GG-00717-MUMU awarded by the Office on Violence Against Women, US Department of Justice and Grant No. 2201MPSPDVC awarded by the Administration for Children and Families, US Department of Health and Human Services. The opinions, findings, conclusions, and recommendations expressed in this publication/proposal/exhibition are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the view of the US Department of Justice or the US Department of Health and Human Services.




MVA

GS and Sway of Japan's hip-hop group Doberman Infinity enjoy a marine animal encounter at Sea Touch on Saipan, in April 2023.



**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION**



INVITATION TO BID (ITB)
ITB23-CHCC/RHC-015

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: JULY 6TH, 2023 TIME: 10:00AM (CHST)

ROTA HEALTH CENTER
“LEASE OF VEHICLES”

INTERESTED PARTIES CAN DOWNLOAD THIS INVITATION TO BID FROM THE CHCC WEBSITE (WWW.CHCC.HEALTH). ONCE AT THE SITE, NAVIGATE TO **REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS** TAB ON THE LEFT NAVIGATION BAR. CLICK ON THE URL FOR THIS RFP. YOU WILL BE REQUIRED TO ENTER DATA TO ALLOW US TO TRACK ALL REQUESTS FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY.

THE CHCC RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSAL AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN ANY PROPOSAL, IF TO DO SO SHALL BE IN THE INTEREST OF THE CHCC. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OF THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION.

/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA
CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

/S/ CORA P. ADA
DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY



NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
Community Development Block Grant - Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) Program

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

NMHC JVA No.	Positions:	Salary	Opening Date	Closing Date
2023-012	CDBG-DR Compliance Specialist (1-Position)	UNGRADED \$25,000.00 to \$30,000.00 Per annum	June 1, 2023	June 16, 2023 4:00 PM

Employment application form, detailed job description, qualification requirements and other information can be accessed at www.nmhcgov.net and www.cnmi-cdbgdr.com.

Applicants may submit their applications through the following options: Submission at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan; Drop Box located in front of the NMHC Central Office building; the CDBG-DR Office located on the 3rd Floor of the Ladera Building, Chalan Laulau, Beach Road; or email application and documents to officemanager@nmhcgov.net.

All applicants must complete and submit the NMHC Employment Application Form together with required documents that are listed in the Employment Application Package. Failure to provide the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. NMHC and all its properties are drug-free zones; therefore, selected applicant will be subject to pre-employment drug screening.

It is the policy of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) that the merit system will be applied and administered according to the principle of equal opportunity for all citizens and nationals as defined by its personnel regulations and the Northern Marianas Commonwealth Constitution regardless of age, race, sex, religion, political affiliation or belief, marital status, disability or place of origin.

For inquiries, please contact Mr. Jacob Muna, Office Manager, at (670) 234-6866/9447 or by email to officemanager@nmhcgov.net. NMHC is a fair housing agency and an equal opportunity provider, lender and employer.

/s/
JESSE S. PALACIOS
Corporate Director

ROBERT T. TORRES
Attorney at Law
P.O. Box 500730 CK
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel.: 670-234-7859
Fax: 670-234-5750
Robert.torres@rttlawgroup.com

*Attorney for Petitioner: Barbara Reyes for
Creditor/Claimant Marianas Public Land Trust*

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF

ROGER WILLIAM SN. TALSACAN,
Decedent.

CIVIL ACTION NO. 23-0090

NOTICE OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION, AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

DATE: June 29, 2023
TIME: 10:00 am
JUDGE: Joseph N. Camacho

TO: THE GENERAL PUBLIC, ANY HEIRS, CLAIMANTS, OR CREDITORS OF THE LATE ROGER WILLIAM SN. TALSACAN OF HIS ESTATE:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Barbara Reyes of Saipan, CNMI ("Petitioner") has petitioned the Superior Court of Northern Marianas Islands to Admit the Estate of **Roger William SN. Talsacan**, the deceased to Probate, for Letters of Administration of the Estate and appointment of **Puolani Fujihira Talsacan** as a proposed Administratrix of the Estate. The attorney for Petitioner is Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, whose address is 5960 Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya) P.O. Box 500730, Saipan, MP 96950.

The hearing on the Petition for Letters of Administration by Barbara Reyes, as Petitioner and to appoint Puolani Fujihira Talsacan as the proposed Administratrix, is scheduled to be heard on the date at the time set forth above at the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands, Guma' Hustisia, Civic Center, Saipan. All interested persons and entities should appear at the hearing.

Any and all persons, creditors, or entities having claims against the deceased, or his estate are hereby required by the law to file their claims with the Clerk of Court within sixty (60) days of this publication, or claim(s) will be barred. A copy of your claims should also be sent to **ROBERT T. TORRES**, Attorney at Law, at the address herein-above indicated.

Respectfully submitted this 22nd day of May 2023.

/s/
CLERK OF COURT/DEPUTY CLERK

Japan video-on-demand channel CL has released two episodes about the Marianas this month featuring the recent visit of members of the Japanese hip-hop group, Doberman Infinity.

The two episodes featuring group members GS and Sway enjoying their first trip post-pandemic were released free to viewers on June 1 and 3, 2023. Doberman Infinity first collaborated with the Marianas Visitors Authority in 2018 to promote the Marianas with the release of the official MVA song *Lookin' For*. In 2019, the group was appointed as a Marianas tourism ambassador.

MVA supported this familiarization tour by securing filming permits. Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan also provided accommodations and meals, and Sakura Marine Sports offered complimentary marine activities to make the media tie-up possible.

“It was great to have members of Doberman Infinity back in the Marianas again to work with the MVA in strengthening our tourism ties with Japan and sharing what Japanese travelers can enjoy when they visit,” said MVA acting managing director Judy C. Torres. “Collaboration with media such as tie-up, FAM tours—or familiarization tours—are an important part of the MVA’s overall marketing efforts and help us reach a large number of people with a reasonably small investment. The free CL episodes are a win-win for all, and we’re pleased for our continued long relationship with Doberman Infinity.”

In the two episodes, the Doberman Infinity duo made the most of their two-night trip to Saipan, taking in the Ataari Dinner Show at Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan, visiting Managaha island, touring the scenic and historic sites of Marpi, having a Sea Touch marine animal encounter, snorkeling, water biking, and shopping at I Love Saipan and Marianas Creations. They also highlight the offerings of Kili Café and Skipper’s Bar at Hyatt Regency Saipan and Mari Bar at Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan, where they lodged.

The episodes can be viewed at <https://www.cl-live.com/programs/ondemand/xz94jRGBTTYBis8MELL-oeJ> and <https://www.cl-live.com/programs/ondemand/xxKqoLPk3sqn7Q8vT-woNe7>. (MVA)

Business

BOH Foundation contributes \$30K to Mawar relief efforts



HONOLULU, Hawaii—Bank of Hawaii Foundation announced a contribution of \$30,000 for the American Red Cross Pacific Islands Region to help relief efforts underway following Typhoon Mawar.

“As a longtime member of the Guam community, it’s difficult to witness and experience the devastation from Typhoon Mawar firsthand as many areas are still flooded or struggling to obtain daily necessities. I am honored to share

this contribution on behalf of Bank of Hawai’i Foundation to the American Red Cross as they work around the clock to get help to those in need,” said Mark Tokito, Bank of Hawaii senior vice president and a board member for the American Red Cross of Guam.

“We are grateful to the many American Red Cross volunteers and employees who provide hope and help to those who have been affected by Typhoon Mawar,” said Momi

SAIPAN TRIBUNE
The Bank of Hawaii branch at Spring Plaza in Gualo Rai, Saipan.

Akimseu, Bank of Hawaii Foundation president. “The life-sustaining services made available by the American Red Cross of Guam are essential now more than ever as many residents remain without power and water two weeks after the typhoon.” (PR)

Federal regulators promise safety review at all major freight railroads

OMAHA, Neb. (AP)—The Federal Railroad Administration recently completed a review of Norfolk Southern’s safety culture in the wake of the February’s fiery derailment in Ohio, and officials plan to follow up with similar investigations of all the major freight railroads over the next year.

A report will be released soon on what investigators found at Norfolk Southern after the Feb. 3 derailment — which prompted the evacuation of half of East Palestine, Ohio — and several other recent derailments. That

crash near the Ohio-Pennsylvania border sparked intense interest in railroad safety nationwide and prompted proposed reforms in Congress.

The head of the FRA, Administrator Amit Bose, said in a letter to Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer recently that in addition to individual reports on Union Pacific, BNSF, CSX, Canadian National and Canadian Pacific Kansas City, the agency will also produce an industry-wide report on common issues and trends.

Railroad unions have been

raising concerns that operating changes the railroads have made over the past six years have made the trains that haul hazardous materials and goods of all kinds across the country more dangerous.

The unions say the deep staff cuts railroads have made, combined with their increasing reliance on longer trains, have increased the chance of safety problems. They say inspections are being rushed, preventative maintenance may be neglected and overworked employees are more likely to be fatigued.

American Airlines, JetBlue seek to keep some ties

American Airlines and JetBlue said Friday they should be allowed to keep selling tickets on each other’s flights in the Northeast and link their frequent-flyer programs despite losing an antitrust trial over their partnership.

The Justice Department said if the airlines get their wish, travelers would miss out on the benefits of restoring competition between the carriers.

In separate filings, the airlines and the government told a federal judge in Boston how he should carry out his ruling last month to break up the partnership. American’s CEO has said his airline will appeal the verdict.

The Justice Department proposed a final judgment that would order American and JetBlue to end most parts of the deal immediately. The government said the airlines should honor existing tickets to avoid hurting travelers, but then quickly wind down their sharing of airport gates and takeoff and landing slots at key airports.

The airlines want to keep selling tickets on each other’s flights — called code-sharing — and offering reciprocal frequent-flyer benefits because those practices “are common in the airline industry.” American and JetBlue also objected to the Justice Department’s request

that they be barred from any deals involving revenue-sharing or coordinating routes with each other for 10 years, and with any other U.S. airline for two years.

The airlines call their partnership in New York and Boston the Northeast Alliance, or NEA.

The Justice Department said that by asking to keep elements of the deal, the airlines are trying “to craft a new ‘NEA Lite’ on the fly.”

The airlines launched their partnership after getting approval from the outgoing Trump administration in January 2021. They argued it helped them compete against Delta Air Lines and United Airlines in the Northeast.

Nation

Trump claims indictment ‘baseless’

GREENSBORO, N.C. (AP)—Former President Donald Trump blasted his historic federal indictment as “ridiculous” and “baseless” Saturday during his first public appearances since the charges were unsealed, painting the 37 felony counts as an attack on his supporters as he tried to turn dire legal peril to political advantage and project a sense of normalcy.

Speaking at Republican state conventions in Georgia and North Carolina, Trump cast his indictment by the Department of Justice as an attempt to damage his chances of returning to the White House as he campaigns for a second term.

“They’ve launched one witch hunt after another to try and stop our movement, to thwart the will of the American people,” Trump alleged in Georgia, later telling the crowd that, “In the end, they’re not coming after me. They’re coming after you.”

The strategy is a well-worn one for Trump, who remains the front-runner for the 2024 GOP nomination despite his

mounting legal woes, which also include criminal charges filed against him in March in New York. Again and again, in the face of investigation, Trump has tried to delegitimize law enforcement officials and portray himself — and his supporters — as victims, even when he is accused of serious crimes.

Trump also vowed Saturday to remain in the race, even if he is convicted in the case.

“I’ll never leave,” he told Politico in an interview aboard his plane after his speech in Georgia. He further predicted that he wouldn’t be convicted and sidestepped questions about whether he would pardon himself if he wins a second term.

“I don’t think I’ll ever have to,” Trump said. “I didn’t do anything wrong.”

The indictment unsealed Friday charges Trump with willfully defying Justice Department demands that he return classified documents, enlisting aides in his efforts to hide the records and even telling his lawyers that he wanted to defy a subpoena for the ma-

terials stored at his residence.

The indictment includes allegations that he stored documents in a ballroom and bathroom at his Mar-a-Lago resort, among other places.

Trump is due to make his first federal court appearance Tuesday in Miami. He was charged alongside valet Walt Nauta, a personal aide whom prosecutors say moved boxes from a storage room to Trump’s residence for him to review and later lied to investigators about the movement. Nauta traveled with Trump on Saturday, appearing by his side at a Georgia Waffle House stop where the former president signed autographs, posed for photos and told supporters, “We did absolutely nothing wrong.”

Earlier Saturday, Trump was given a hero’s welcome at the party convention in Georgia, where he drew loud applause as he slammed the investigation as “a political hit job” and accused his political enemies of launching “one hoax and witch hunt after another” to prevent his reelection.

‘Unabomber’ Ted Kaczynski dies in prison at 81

WASHINGTON (AP)—Theodore “Ted” Kaczynski, the Harvard-educated mathematician who retreated to a dingy shack in the Montana wilderness and ran a 17-year bombing campaign that killed three people and injured 23 others, died Saturday. He was 81.

Branded the “Unabomber” by the FBI, Kaczynski died at the federal prison medical center in Butner, North Carolina, Kristie Breshears, a spokesperson for the federal Bureau of Prisons, told The Associated Press. He was found unresponsive in his cell early Saturday morning and was pronounced dead around 8 a.m., she said. A cause of death was not immediately known.

Before his transfer to the prison medical facility, he had been held in the federal Supermax prison in Florence, Colorado, since May 1998, when he was sentenced to four life sentences plus 30 years for a campaign of terror that set universities nationwide on edge. He admitted committing 16 bombings from 1978 and 1995, permanently maiming several of his victims.

Years before the Sept. 11 attacks and the anthrax mailing, the Unabomber’s deadly homemade bombs changed the way Americans mailed

packages and boarded airplanes, even virtually shutting down air travel on the West Coast in July 1995.

He forced The Washington Post, in conjunction with The New York Times, to make the agonizing decision in September 1995 to publish his 35,000-word manifesto, “Industrial Society and Its Future,” which claimed modern society and technology was leading to a sense of powerlessness and alienation.

But it led to his undoing. Kaczynski’s brother, David, and David’s wife, Linda Patrik, recognized the treatise’s tone and tipped off the FBI, which had been searching for the Unabomber for years in nation’s longest, costliest manhunt.

Authorities in April 1996 found him in a 10-by-14-foot (3-by-4-meter) plywood and tarpaper cabin outside Lincoln, Montana, that was filled with journals, a coded diary, explosive ingredients and two completed bombs.

As an elusive criminal mastermind, the Unabomber won his share of sympathizers and comparisons to Daniel Boone, Edward Abbey and Henry David Thoreau.

But once revealed as a wild-eyed hermit with long hair and beard who weathered Montana winters in a one-room shack, Kaczyn-

ski struck many as more of a pathetic loner than romantic anti-hero.

Even in his own journals, Kaczynski came across not as a committed revolutionary but as a vengeful hermit driven by petty grievances.

“I certainly don’t claim to be an altruist or to be acting for the ‘good’ (whatever that is) of the human race,” he wrote on April 6, 1971. “I act merely from a desire for revenge.”

A psychiatrist who interviewed Kaczynski in prison diagnosed him as a paranoid schizophrenic.

“Mr. Kaczynski’s delusions are mostly persecutory in nature,” Sally Johnson wrote in a 47-page report. “The central themes involve his belief that he is being maligned and harassed by family members and modern society.”

Kaczynski hated the idea of being viewed as mentally ill and when his lawyers attempted to present an insanity defense, he tried to fire them. When that failed, he tried to hang himself with his underwear.

Kaczynski eventually pleaded guilty rather than let his defense team proceed with an insanity defense.

“I’m confident that I’m sane,” Kaczynski told Time magazine in 1999. “I don’t get delusions and so forth.”

Health & Wellness

What is a panic attack?

A panic attack is an episode of intense fear with an abrupt onset, lasting from several minutes to up to an hour. It has many mental and physical symptoms such as chest pain, shortness of breath, nausea, dizziness, chest pain and a sense of pending doom. These symptoms may cause significant worry in people as they may mimic signs of medical problems such as heart issues. However, panic attacks can occur when there isn't a real danger or apparent cause.

Panic attacks aren't life-threatening, but they can be frightening for the person experiencing the attack and their loved ones. These attacks can affect your quality of life, especially if you have multiple or unexpected panic attacks.

What are the signs of a panic attack?

A panic attack usually begins suddenly and without warning. Typically, symptoms peak in minutes, and you may feel tired and worn out after it subsides. Panic attacks can cause chest pain and breathing problems that lead some people to seek medical care.

To be diagnosed as a panic attack, the episode must have at least four of these symptoms simultaneously:

- Chest pain or discomfort
- Chills or heat sensations
- Derealization (feelings of unreality) or depersonalization (being detached from oneself)
- Fast beating, fluttering or pounding heart
- Fear of dying
- Fear of losing control or "going crazy"
- Feeling dizzy, unsteady, light-headed or faint
- Feelings of choking
- Nausea or abdominal distress
- Numbness or tingling sensations
- Sensations of shortness of breath or smothering
- Sweating



TERO VESALAINEN/DREAMSTIME/TNS

Panic attacks aren't life-threatening, but they can be frightening for the person experiencing the attack and their loved ones.

■ Trembling or shaking

Panic attack symptoms may also resemble other psychiatric conditions, such as:

■ Agoraphobia—marked fear or avoidance of two or more places or situations

■ Caffeine or nicotine dependence—high doses of either substance may result in increased anxiety

■ Obsessive-compulsive disorder—obsessions often leading to ruminations or brooding

■ Phobias—fear of specific objects or situations

■ Post-traumatic stress disorder—involves emotions from previous events affecting a current situation

■ Separation anxiety disorder—fear of separation from attachment figures

■ Social anxiety disorder—fear of social situations

Do I need to go to the emergency room if I have a panic attack?

In most cases, a single panic attack episode does not require emergency medical care. However, it's important to discuss your symptoms with your health care team. They will evaluate you for medical disorders that may contribute to your symptoms, such as cardiac arrhythmia, respiratory diseases, pulmonary emboli, thy-

roid disorders, adrenal tumors or medication side effects.

What's the difference between a panic attack and panic disorder?

A person with ongoing, unexpected panic attacks who spends time worrying about another panic attack may have a panic disorder. People with panic disorders may be afraid of experiencing more panic attacks and live in a constant state of fear that affects the quality of their lives. Often, they change their behaviors and habits so much that it interferes with daily activities. This could result in the person missing social events, school or work.

People with panic disorder have panic attacks with mental and physical symptoms. The attacks happen without warning and can last several minutes to an hour.

Such people also may:

■ Worry about having panic attacks in the future.

■ Avoid situations that might cause them to have a panic attack.

■ Seek medical care at a clinic or Emergency Department when experiencing a panic attack.

Is there a test for panic disorder?

No. There is no test, but your health care team can determine if you have panic disorder or another condition based on your symptoms. You may have a complete physical exam, blood test or psychological evaluation to discuss your symptoms, fears, stress and family history.

Can panic attacks be treated?

Yes, treatment can reduce the intensity and frequency of panic attacks and panic disorder.

Treatment may include:

■ Cognitive behavioral therapy: Usually, this is the first treatment offered for panic attacks and panic disorder. During cognitive behavioral therapy, you talk with a psychologist or counselor about your experiences and learn how to react to situations differently. This teaches you how to cope better with your feelings and overcome fears of situations you may have avoided because of panic attacks. In some cases, it is possible to participate in cognitive behavioral therapy virtually, such as meeting with a therapist online or through a video call, rather than in person.

■ Medications: Medications can help reduce symptoms associated with panic attacks and depression. There are many options, and if one medication doesn't work for you, your health care team may switch you to a different medication. All medications have a risk of side effects, so talk with your health care team about the best choice for your situation.

You don't need to suffer alone or avoid aspects of life because of panic attacks. Talk with your health care team about your symptoms and about treatment options that can make a difference.

Brian Hesler, M.D., is a psychiatrist in Psychiatry & Psychology in Albert Lea, Minnesota. (Mayo Clinic News Network)

Dairy facts

ON NUTRITION

BY BARBARA INTERMILL

Tribune News Service



Barbara Intermill is a registered dietitian nutritionist and syndicated columnist. She is the author of Quinn-Essential Nutrition: The Uncomplicated Science of Eating. Email her at barbara@quinessentialnutrition.com.

What do we know about dairy foods? Close to 90% of the U.S. population does not consume enough dairy foods, according to the 2020-2025 Dietary Guidelines for Americans. Depending on age, the current recommendation is from one to three servings a day of milk, yogurt, cheese, kefir or low-lactose or lactose-free dairy foods.

Dairy alternatives that are closest nutritionally to natural milk include soy-based beverages, cheese and yogurt that have been fortified with calcium, vitamin A and vitamin D.

Some "milks" may contain calcium but do not contribute enough other nutrients to qualify as true dairy foods, according to the guidelines. These include almond, rice, coconut, oat and hemp beverages.

Dairy foods provide important nutrients for brain development, according to the National Dairy Council, a nonprofit organization that provides science-based research and education about dairy foods.

Nutrition is central to brain development, says brain researcher Carol Cheatham from the Nutrition Research Institute at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. And the critical period for brain development is from conception to a child's second birthday.

So much so that in 2018, the American Academy of Pe-



Depending on age, the current recommendation is from one to three servings a day of milk, yogurt, cheese, kefir or low-lactose or lactose-free dairy foods.

DREAMSTIME/TNS

diatrics issued a policy statement to advocate for improving mom's and baby's nutrition in those first 1,000 days of life. Dairy foods provide more than half of the key nutrients cited in this report that particularly affect brain development.

Most (about 72%) of the calcium in the U.S. food supply comes from dairy foods, according to the National Institutes of Health. To get the amount of calcium in an eight-ounce glass of milk, you'd have to eat seven oranges or six slices of wheat bread.

Protein, calcium and vitamin D are just a few of 13 essential nutrients contained in dairy foods.

Low-fat chocolate milk—an ideal blend of protein, carbohydrates and fluid—has been found through sports nutrition research to be an efficient recovery beverage after intense exercise.

There is a difference between dairy allergy and lactose intolerance. Dairy allergy is an immune response to the protein in dairy foods. It causes allergic reactions such as itchy eyes, rashes or wheezing. If you have a true milk allergy, you need to avoid all foods that contain dairy protein such as casein and whey.

Lactose intolerance is the inability to digest lactose, the natural carbohydrate in milk. It can cause stomach cramps, gas and/or diarrhea in susceptible people. Good news: People with this condition can still enjoy dairy foods in moderation.

Cheese is usually lower in lactose than milk. And the live active cultures in yogurt actually help the body to digest lactose. Lactose-free milk and yogurt are real milk products with added lactase, the enzyme that breaks down lactose in the body.

MAYO CLINIC MINUTE

How can you avoid surgery for back pain?

By MICHAEL CLAYTON
MAYO CLINIC NEWS NETWORK

Back pain is one of the most common reasons people seek medical help or miss work. It is a leading cause of disability worldwide. Back pain can range from a muscle aching to a shooting, burning or stabbing sensation. Fortunately, there are measures that can help prevent or relieve most back pain episodes. If prevention fails, simple home treatment and using the body correctly often will heal the back within a few weeks. Dr. Maziyar Kalani,

a Mayo Clinic neurosurgeon, shares ways you can avoid surgery for back pain.

Dr. Kalani says there are measures to help assist with most back pain. Medications, physical therapy and exercise can help.

"Our main goal is to try to get you treated nonoperatively. A majority of people will get improvement with just nonoperative, or what we call conservative therapy," he says.

There are times when surgery for back pain is necessary.

"We tend to see a lot more of things like pinched spinal cords, pinched nerves, in-

stability of the spine. These are things that surgery is quite effective for, of course, after you've really gone on through the nonoperative care," says Dr. Kalani.

When to see medical help for back pain

■ Pain is intense or constant, especially at night or when lying down.

■ If pain spreads down one or both legs, especially below the knee.

■ Weakness or numbness in one of both legs.

■ Swelling or redness on the back.

For pain after a trauma such as an accident, fall or sports injury, seek immediate medical help or call 911.

Life & Style

IN ARGENTINE LITHIUM DISPUTE

James Cameron feels he ‘walked into an ambush’

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (AP)—Movie director James Cameron says he feels he “walked into an ambush” this week during a visit to Argentina in which he believes there was an attempt to use his image as an environmentalist to give a positive spin to lithium mining operations despite Indigenous opposition.

Cameron, the director of “Avatar” and “Titanic,” said Friday he would now devote attention and money from his Avatar Alliance Foundation to support Indigenous communities opposing lithium operations in South America.

“Ironically, the outcome of this is that I am now aware of the problem and we will now assist through my foundation with the issue of Indigenous rights with respect to lithium extraction,” Cameron told a group of journalists gathered in

his hotel room in the capital of Buenos Aires Friday evening.

Cameron came to Argentina this week to speak at a sustainability conference in Buenos Aires on Friday.

“I believed that I was coming here to make a kind of motivational speech about environmental causes,” Cameron said.

As part of the visit, Cameron traveled to northern Jujuy province Thursday to visit a large solar power plant with Gov. Gerardo Morales and says he was never told lithium would be part of the discussion.

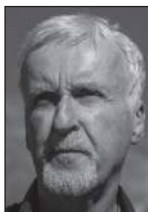
After Cameron’s visit, Morales wrote a message on social media thanking Cameron for the visit, writing that the province was looking to “transform the energy matrix” through projects such as the solar power plant and “lithium extraction.”

The director received a letter that a group of 33 Indigenous

communities from the area had written to him a few days earlier asking him to either cancel his trip or meet with them so they could explain their long-held opposition to lithium mining projects they say affect their land rights and negatively impact the environment.

“I feel like I walked into an ambush,” Cameron told journalists after meeting with local environmentalists, saying he was unaware of controversy involving lithium projects. “I feel like I was put into an optic that had meaning that I wasn’t aware of.”

Although Cameron says he “doesn’t know the exact architecture” of how the “ambush” happened, he feels there was an effort to use his image not just because of his support for



Cameron

environmental causes but also because of the overarching message of “Avatar.”

“‘Avatar’ is the highest grossing film in history. It is about the conflict between an extraction industry and the rights of Indigenous people,” Cameron said. “If you could generate an optic where I appear to be approving of lithium mining, then you have a mandate of some sort or an approval of some sort.”

In their letter to Cameron, representatives of the Indigenous communities made a direct reference to “Avatar” to appeal for the director’s support.

“Jujuy is Pandora, and it is under the threat of the greed of the mining industry, and we are the Na’vi,” reads the letter, referring to the fictional world where “Avatar” takes place

and its inhabitants who battle against colonizing miners.

Before leaving Argentina, Cameron met with Verónica Chávez, the representative of one of the Indigenous communities from Jujuy.

Argentina is the fourth-largest producer of lithium and is part of what is known as the “lithium

triangle,” an area that contains a large share of the world’s proven reserves of the metal and also includes neighboring Chile and Bolivia. Demand for lithium is soaring amid the transition to renewable energy around the world and the growth in electric vehicles that are powered by lithium batteries.

Troops feel the heat and several faint, as Prince William reviews a military parade



AP

A trombone player of the military band is carried out on a stretcher after a faint during the Colonel’s Review, the final rehearsal of the Trooping the Colour, the King’s annual birthday parade, at Horse Guards Parade in London, Saturday, June 10, 2023.

LONDON (AP)—Several British soldiers were overcome by the heat on Saturday as they turned out in woolen tunics and bearskin hats to salute Prince William.

At least three guardsmen fainted during the military parade known as the Colonel’s Review, in which more than 1,400 soldiers of the Household Division and the King’s Troop Royal Horse Artillery were reviewed by the heir to the throne, who is honorary Colonel of the Welsh Guards.

The temperature in London on Saturday was due to hit 30 C (86 F).

Afterwards William tweeted: “A big thank you to every soldier who took part in the Colonel’s Review this morning in the heat. Difficult conditions but you all did a really good job.”

The event was a rehearsal for Trooping the Colour, an annual military parade held each June to mark the monarch’s official birthday. King Charles III will oversee the ceremony on June 17.

Man pleads guilty to helping two others accused in fatal shooting of Young Dolph

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP)—A Tennessee man pleaded guilty Friday to helping two other men charged with fatally shooting rapper Young Dolph in a daytime ambush at a Memphis bakery.

Jermarcus Johnson, 26, pleaded guilty to three counts of accessory after the fact. Judge Lee Coffee approved a plea deal with prosecutors, allowing him to avoid trial. He could testify at a future trial in the November 2021 killing of Young Dolph, whose real name was Adolph Thornton Jr.

Johnson is the first of four defendants to plead guilty or be

convicted in the Young Dolph shooting, which rattled Memphis and shook the entertainment world. The 36-year-old rapper, label owner and producer was buying cookies near his boyhood home in Memphis when he was gunned down by two men who drove up to the bakery in a stolen Mercedes Benz, authorities said.

Johnson acknowledged helping the two shooting suspects communicate by cellphone after the killing while they were on the run from authorities and helping one of them communicate with his probation officer

after the killing.

During questioning by prosecutor Paul Hagerman, Johnson acknowledged taking possession of a car from shooting suspect Justin Johnson, his half brother. The car was not the one tied to the killing, Hagerman said. Jermarcus Johnson also identified a photo in which Justin Johnson was wearing the same clothing as one of the two shooters accused of gunning down Young Dolph the day the rapper was killed.

Hagerman said Jermarcus Johnson had no role in the actual killing of Young Dolph, but he was one of

“multiple players” doing different things in connection with it.

Hagerman said after the hearing that dealing with a case with several defendants is “a little bit like chess.”

“You’ve got to set up your pieces,” he said.

Jermarcus Johnson was initially charged with the more serious offence of conspiracy to commit first-degree murder, an indictment said. Jermarcus Johnson helped Justin Johnson communicate with the other suspect, Cornelius Smith, the indictment said.

Jermarcus Johnson’s lawyer, Josh Corman, told reporters his client was an unwilling participant who was dragged into the aftermath of the killing.

Spouse wants to travel before it’s too late

DEAR ABBY: I was diagnosed with chronic heart failure seven years ago. It has no cure. I want to see and do more before my life is over. My husband and I have been married 29 years. After talking about this with my therapist, I was finally able to express it to my husband. He said he understands, but we will need to save for a trip and won’t be able to go until late next year.

I have told him I need to go somewhere to see more of the world very soon. I’d be willing to go by myself. He told me we needed to close out an old bank account in which there was \$3,000. We have spent other money I don’t think was necessary. We are going to his sister’s wedding in a few months, which will cost around \$2,500, and he’s already talking about how he’s going to take his annual vacation to see his family.

My sister said she and I should take a trip together this year to a destination four hours by car. It would be for about four days. My husband said “we’ll see” if we can afford for me to go. He doesn’t seem to realize that this is an issue about my mental health. I have explained my reasons several times. I’m tempted to just go and charge it on the credit card, but it might damage our marriage. I love him. What can I do?

WANDERLUST IN OREGON

DEAR WANDERLUST: Your medical problem lends

some urgency to your desire to scratch some items off your bucket list. In light of the fact that you are unwell, perhaps “just this once” your husband could postpone his annual family visit? Please discuss this further with your therapist. Your husband should not be controlling the purse strings to the extent he has been because it appears he has been using the money to do only the things he wants to do.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: I am at my wits’ end about my marriage. Among many other issues, today feels like the last straw. My 8-year-old son stole a small toy from a store, and I made him go back into the store with me to pay for the item. My husband chastised me for doing so, saying I humiliated the boy. I saw it as an opportunity to teach my son a lesson about taking things, and my husband is worried about him feeling humiliated?

I have tried therapy for many other issues we have, but we haven’t made much progress. After today, I’m ready to give up. Fundamentally, we just don’t have the same values or want the same things. Please tell me your thoughts on what happened with my son. It breaks my heart because it is so confusing to the boy.

TRYING TO PARENT

DEAR TRYING: You handled the petty theft incident perfectly. You corrected your son’s misdeed and made

DEAR ABBY

BY ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

him take responsibility for it. For that you should have been applauded, not chastised. But setting that aside for a moment, you stated that there are many problems in your marriage. Since they haven’t been able to be resolved with counseling, it may be time to weigh alternative options such as a temporary separation or divorce.

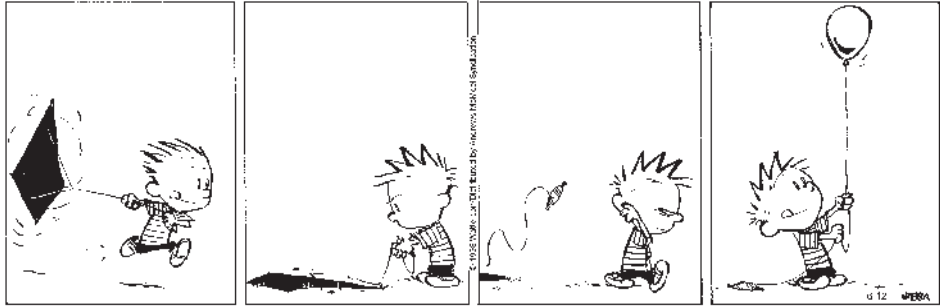
■■■

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Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



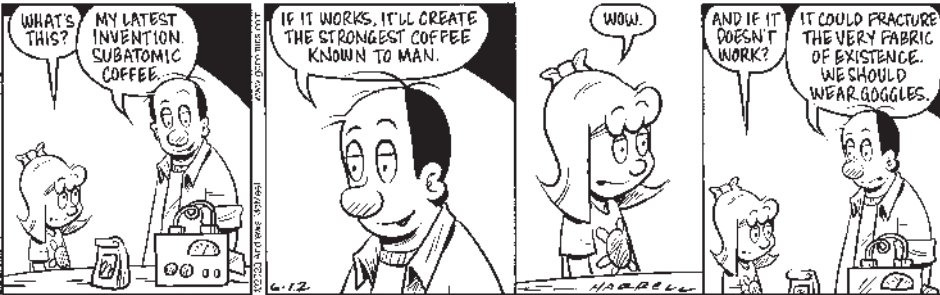
Garfield®

By Jim Davis



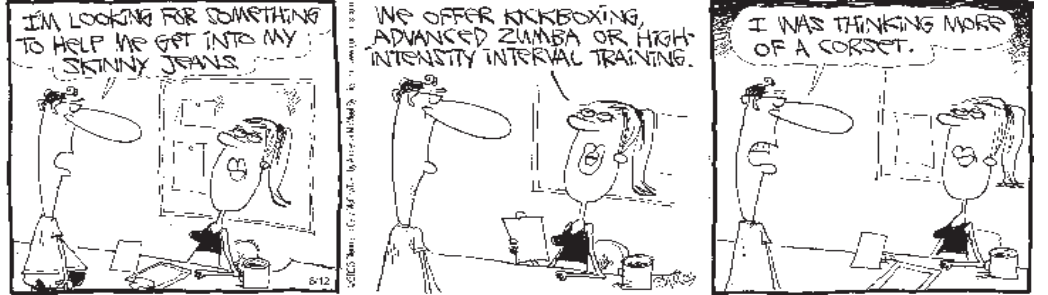
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 1 Comic strip possum 5 Unruly group 8 Quarrel 12 Persia, today 13 — -Magnon 14 Eternities 15 Region (Abbr.) 16 Fleet-wood Mac hit single 18 Trinidad's neighbor 20 Aches (for) 21 — best friend 23 "I love," to Ovid 24 Temporary fixes 28 British noble 31 Pitcher Maglie 32 Together (with) 34 Enjoy Vail 35 Grand tale

37 Rubber wedge, say 39 Part of some German names 41 Kin of IMHO 42 Base-ball's Reese 45 \$100 bills 49 Short visit 51 Roughly 52 Singer India.— 53 Docs' org. 54 Egg container 55 Actress Ward 56 Gist 57 Beholds

DOWN 1 "Troy" actor Brad 2 Disc-shaped cookie 3 Attire 4 Freeway entrance 5 Broad-way star Audra 6 Acapulco gold 7 Skeletal 8 Bagel choice 9 Braised beef entree 10 Unsigned (Abbr.) 11 Recipe amls. 17 Darjeeling, e.g. 19 Infatuated 22 Parody 24 Away from NNW 25 Light touch 26 Extra-virgin product 27 Alaskan shellfish 29 MGM rival 30 Sass 33 Beam 36 Black-eyed legume 38 Feels faint 40 "The Matrix" role 42 Unpaid TV ads 43 French 101 verb 44 Author Hunter 46 Shade provider 47 Being, to Brutus 48 Lushes 50 Big bird

Last Friday's Answer 06/12

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Kendra Wilkinson, 38; Dave Franco, 38; Scott Thompson, 64; Timothy Busfield, 66.

Happy Birthday: Open your doors, host events and explore what others offer this year. Challenge yourself to use your skills to help those less fortunate while turning your life into something that makes you feel good about yourself and your contributions. Put home, comfort and family first, and set an example for those you want to help. Make peace and love priorities. Your numbers are 8, 13, 21, 29, 32, 35, 48.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Pay attention to what you spend and how much you owe. Don't discuss your plans with someone prone to stealing your ideas or taking over. If you want to be competitive, work alone. A self-improvement project will turn out well. ***

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You'll accomplish the most if you approach others with encouragement and charm. Getting along will ensure that something gets done. Offer unique ideas, but don't push what you want on others. Change begins with you. ***

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Share information if it helps you process your options and get things done. Don't limit what you can do because someone suggests you can't. Forge ahead with a positive attitude and a plan. Self-improvement projects will build confidence and personal growth. ****

CANCER (June 21-July 22): What you share will be misconstrued. Listen, observe and choose your words carefully. A change will require connecting with someone you can trust to finish things on time. You can't

put a price on trust, loyalty and honesty. Follow your instincts. **

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You've got the energy to execute your plans. Refuse to let anyone distract you from reaching your objective. By aligning yourself with people who have their eyes on the same target, you'll find it easy to stay on track and make friends. *****

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Focus on the changes you want to implement, but don't lose sight of what things cost and how much debt you want to incur. A cost-efficient change will ease stress and help you remember what's important. ***

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Share your thoughts with someone knowledgeable and build a better future. Gaining insight will encourage you to work alongside people who are good at taking orders. A change at home may not be welcome, but it will relax you. ***

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Move forward slowly. A physical response will send the wrong message. Don't force change when you aren't ready to make a move. Any temptation will lead to impulse, and an act of spontaneity will lead to disappointment. A steady pace is necessary. ***

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Take care of money matters, possessions and documents that need updating. Handling your affairs before they are due will help build a good reputation. Concentrate on healthy habits packed with proper diet and exercise. Update your look. *****

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Do your best to get along with friends, relatives and colleagues. Don't let your emotions take over, revealing something you'd rather keep secret. Changing your living conditions will force others to comply. Don't give up or give in prematurely. **

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Consider all financial possibilities. Invest in your skills, qualifications, home and other interests, and personal growth and gains will come your way. A physical push will backfire, causing a rift between you and someone close to you. ****

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Joint financial ventures will cause uncertainty and possible regret if you don't set down ground rules. Changing how you manage your money won't please everyone, but it should protect you from anyone who may take advantage of you and your generosity. ***

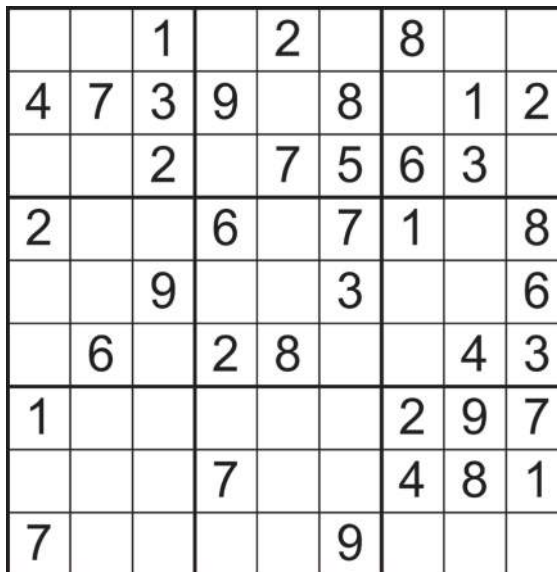
Birthday Baby: You are social, positive and proactive. You are imaginative and affectionate.

☾: Avoid conflicts; work behind the scenes. ☼: You can accomplish, but don't rely on others. ☼☼: Focus and you'll reach your goals. ☼☼☼: Aim high; start new projects. ☼☼☼☼: Nothing can stop you; go for gold.

SUDOKU

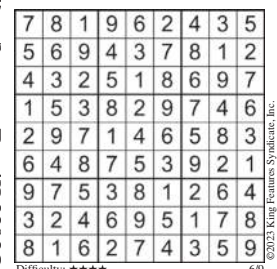
Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green



Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Friday's Answer



Difficulty: ****

Difficulty: ★ 6/12 ©2012 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

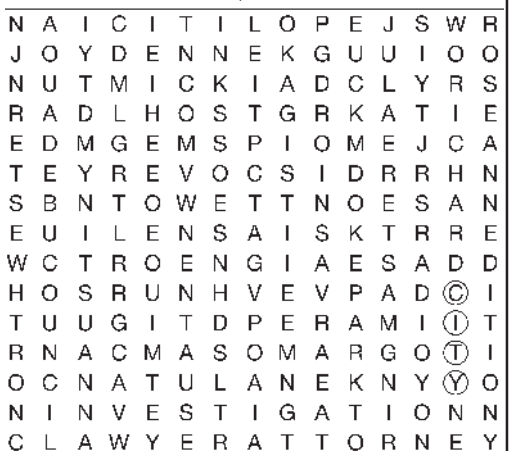
WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

JERRY SPRINGER (1944-2023)

Solution: 10 letters



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Last Friday's Answer: Rejoice To purchase WONDERWORD books, visit www.WonderWordBooks.com, or call 1-800-642-6460. (In Canada, call 1-855-232-2367)

STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

Diamondbacks win 5-0 as Tigers tumble in 8th straight loss



DETROIT (AP)—Nick Ahmed hit a two-run homer in the second inning, Lourdes Gurriel followed with a three-run blast in the fifth and the Arizona Diamondbacks sent the Detroit Tigers to their eighth straight loss, 5-0 on Saturday.

Ryne Nelson (3-3) threw 5 2/3 scoreless innings and gave up just four hits. After walking two straight to load the bases, Nelson was replaced by right-hander Austin Adams, who ended the sixth by getting Zack Short out on a fly to center.

Detroit's Matthew Boyd (3-5) allowed five earned runs for the second time in three starts and third time in six outings.



Arizona Diamondbacks' Nick Ahmed is greeted in the dugout after his two-run home run during the second inning of a baseball game against the Detroit Tigers, Saturday, June 10, 2023, in Detroit. AP

RANGERS 8, RAYS 4 ST. PETERSBURG, Fla.

(AP)—Nathan Eovaldi became the majors second nine-game winner, Corey Seager had five hits and four RBIs, and Texas beat Tampa Bay in a matchup of teams with the major leagues' top records.

Eovaldi (9-2) allowed four runs and seven hits over 6 1/3 innings, improving to 8-0 in his last 10 starts as Texas stopped a seven-game winning streak by the Rays.

Seager hit a two-run double in a three-run third off rookie Taj Bradley (4-3) and hit a two-run homer against Jalen Beeks in a three-run fourth. Bradley gave up five runs, four hits and four walks in 3 2/3 innings.

ORIOLES 6, ROYALS 1 BALTIMORE

(AP)—Cole Irvin earned his first victory with Baltimore, Gunnar Henderson and Adam Frazier homered and Baltimore stretched Kansas City losing streak to five.

Recalled Saturday to make his first major league start since April 13, Irvin (1-2) demonstrated much better control, walking none after issuing eight over 12 2/3 innings over his first three starts. He surrendered six hits and one run over 5 1/3 innings while striking out five.

Baltimore scored twice in the first as Brady Singer (4-5) labored through a 39-pitch inning. Anthony Santander doubled in a run with one out, then came around three batters later on Ryan O'Hearn's single.

YANKEES 3, RED SOX 1 NEW YORK

(AP)—Domingo Germán wriggled out of trouble for six innings, Willie Calhoun hit a tiebreaking homer and New York beat Boston to even their three-game weekend series.

Gleyber Torres put the Yankees ahead with a fourth-inning homer off Tanner Houck

(3-6). Houck allowed two runs and three hits in six innings.

Germán (4-3) allowed six hits and struck out five.

Clay Holmes worked around a one-out single by Alex Verdugo in the ninth for his eighth save in 10 chances.

DODGERS 9, PHILLIES 0 PHILADELPHIA

(AP)—Rookie Bobby Miller won for the third time in four starts, J.D. Martinez hit a three-run homer and Los Angeles beat Philadelphia after the ejection of Phillies manager Rob Thomson in an apparent pitch clock flap.

David Peralta homered, doubled and drove in a run for the Dodgers, who won for just the second time in seven games. Mookie Betts added a pair of hits and two RBIs.

Miller (3-0) allowed three hits in six innings, struck out seven and walked three, lowering his ERA to 0.78. The 24-year-old right-hander joined Kenta Maeda in 2016 as the only Dodgers pitchers since at least 1901 to pitch five or more innings and allowed one run or none in his first four appearances.

Andre Jackson finished a six-hitter for his second save.

Thomson was ejected in the sixth inning when plate umpire Roberto Ortiz apparently wouldn't reset the pitch clock after Aaron Nola (5-5) requested a new baseball. Nola was charged with six runs and seven hits in 6 1/3 innings.

ASTROS 6, GUARDIANS 4 CLEVELAND

(AP)—Jose Abreu homered and drove in three runs, rookie J.P. France stayed around until the seventh inning and Houston's bullpen finally held off a Cleveland rally.

Abreu hit a two-run homer in the first inning off Triston

McKenzie (0-1) and added an insurance run with an RBI single in the ninth as the Astros evened the series after losing in 14 innings on Friday.

Cleveland, which came back five times to win the series opener, scored one in the ninth and brought the tying run to the plate before closer Ryan Pressly struck out Will Brennan for his 12th save in 14 chances.

France (2-1) walked six in 6 2/3 innings, but was helped by his infield turning three double plays. He gave up three runs and seven hits.

BRAVES 6, NATIONALS 4 ATLANTA

(AP)—Ronald Acuña Jr. and Marcell Ozuna each hit a two-run homer in the second inning off MacKenzie Gore and Atlanta won its seventh consecutive game.

Gore (3-5) made 39 pitches in the second as Atlanta went up 5-1. Ozuna's 13th homer of the season sailed 426 feet to left and Acuña's 13th homer went 413 feet to right-center. It marked the first time in his last 11 homers that Acuña didn't reach 420 feet.

Gore was charged with four hits and five runs in five innings and hasn't won since April 26 at the New York Mets, a stretch of eight starts. The lefty has given up six homers in his last four outings.

Rookie Jared Shuster (3-2), pitching on nine days of rest, allowed eight hits and three runs in his seventh career start. The lefty was 2-0 with a 3.18 ERA over his previous three starts but was chased on consecutive singles to begin the sixth.

MARINERS 6, ANGELS 2 ANAHEIM, Calif.

(AP)—J.P. Crawford tied a career high with four hits, Julio Rodríguez was 3 for 5 with

a homer and Seattle beat Los Angeles despite Shohei Ohtani going deep for the third time in five games.

Eugenio Suárez also had three hits as the Mariners set a season high with 16 hits.

Ohtani is tied for third in the majors with 18 home runs. He has gone 12 for 28 during a seven-game hitting streak.

Gabe Speier (2-1) got the win. Patrick Sandoval (3-6) took the loss.

MARLINS 5, WHITE SOX 1 CHICAGO

(AP)—Jean Segura capped Miami's five-run ninth inning with a two-run double, and the Marlins won their seventh time in eight games.

Luis Arraez had two hits for the Marlins, raising his batting average to .402 in 60 games. Sandy Alcantara pitched seven innings of three-hit ball.

Arraez helped spark Miami's rally, following Garrett Cooper's pinch-hit single with another base hit against Joe Kelly (1-3). A bases-loaded error on shortstop Tim Anderson brought home one run, and Arraez scored on Jesús Sánchez's walk.

Steven Okert (3-0) got three outs for the win, working around Elvis Andrus' leadoff single in the eighth.

TWINS 9, BLUE JAYS 4 TORONTO

(AP)—Carlos Correa hit his second career grand slam, Max Kepler and Trevor Larnach also homered and Minnesota scored seven runs in the eighth inning.

Jorge López (2-2) pitched a one-hit seventh as the Twins won their second straight after a five-game skid. Twins starter Joe Ryan allowed three runs and six hits in six innings.

Adam Cimper (0-2) lost for the second straight day, giving up six runs and five hits while getting just one out.

Right-hander Trevor Richards became the sixth Blue Jays pitcher to start a game this season, striking out seven over three shutout innings.

METS 5, PIRATES 1 PITTSBURGH

(AP)—New York stopped a seven-game losing streak, their longest in four years, beating Pittsburgh behind Mark Canha's tie-breaking two-run double in the seventh inning and three RBIs.

Kodai Senga (6-3) allowed an unearned run and two hits in seven inning with six strikeouts and four walks. David Robertson and Adam Ottavino finished a three-hitter.

Rookie Francisco Álvarez hit his 12th homer and Brandon Nimmo had two hits and a RBI as the Mets overcame three errors.

Johan Oviedo (3-5) gave up two runs and four hits in 6 1/3 innings as the Pirates lost for the third time in 10 games.

ATHLETICS 2, BREWERS 1, 10 INNINGS MILWAUKEE

(AP)—Oakland stretched a winning streak to four for the first time since last season, beating Milwaukee behind Aledmys Díaz's RBI single in the 10th inning.

Paul Blackburn and four relievers combined on a six-hitter for Oakland, which has a major league-high 6.40 ERA. Blackburn allowed four hits in six scoreless innings, struck out five and walked one.

Shintaro Fujinami (3-6) pitched around a walk in the ninth, and Sam Long got three straight outs in the 10th for his first save this season and the second in his big league career.

CUBS 4, GIANTS 0 SAN FRANCISCO

(AP)—Kyle Hendricks didn't allow a hit until Mitch Haniger doubled with two outs in the eighth inning, pitching Chi-

cago over San Francisco.

Hendricks (1-2) faced one batter over the minimum, walking Michael Conforto with one out in the second, and had retired 19 batters in a row before Haniger hit a fastball 378 feet off the left-field wall on the eighth pitch of the at-bat. That ended the longest no-hit bid in the major leagues this season.

Julian Merryweather retired three straight batters in the ninth, completing the one-hitter and giving the Cubs consecutive wins for the first time since May 29 and 30.

Christopher Morel homered off Jakob Junis (3-3) leading off the third. The ball bounced off the top of the brick wall and back onto the field. Unaware of the ruling, Morel raced around the bases until second base umpire and crew chief Brian O'Nora signaled home run.

PADRES 3, ROCKIES 2 DENVER

(AP)—Fernando Tatis Jr. had a go-ahead, two-run single in the sixth inning that led San Diego over Colorado and extended the Rockies' losing streak to six.

Manny Machado had three hits and made a crucial catch in the eighth inning to help help ensure the Padres' third straight win.

Drew Carlton (2-0) got the win despite allowing Allan Trejo's RBI grounder in the fifth that put the Rockies ahead 2-1. Josh Hader struck out two in a perfect ninth for his 15th save in 18 chances.

Colorado starter Kyle Freeland scattered six hits over five innings but was denied a win when the Padres rallied in the sixth. They loaded the bases with a single and two walks off of reliever Jake Bird (1-1) and Tatis lined a two-run single to right put San Diego in front.

REDS 8, CARDINALS 4 ST. LOUIS

(AP)—Elly De La Cruz kept up his hot start with an RBI, stolen base and impressive headfirst slide at the plate, Andrew Abbott pitched shutout ball for the second straight start and Cincinnati beat St. Louis behind the two rookies.

Abbott (2-0), a 24-year-old left-hander who debuted Monday with a win over Milwaukee, allowed five hits and three walks in 5 2/3 innings and struck out four. He has pitched 11 2/3 scoreless innings and allowed six hits.

Luke Maile doubled twice with three RBIs and Spencer Steer had a sacrifice fly, two-run double and three RBIs.

Miles Mikolas (4-3) gave up five runs and seven hits in six innings.

Nuggets showing plenty of poise in these NBA Finals against



MIAMI (AP)—The Denver Nuggets act like they've been here before.

There is an unmistakable poise to the Nuggets, who are only one win away from their first NBA championship and could hoist the Larry O'Brien Trophy as early as Monday night when the finals return to Denver for Game 5. Their stars have been starry in their first finals appearance. Their role players have delivered. There hasn't been a colossal blunder. And even on the cusp of a title, they refuse to change their approach.

"We need to win one more," two-time MVP Nikola Jokic said.

That's the Nuggets. Simple. Effective. Blunt.

With Jokic and Jamal Murray leading the way, and with basically a different person stepping up to be the third hero every night so far for the Nuggets, they have the Miami Heat in serious trouble now. They lead the finals 3-1 and with potentially two of the next three games—if needed—in Denver.

"We get an opportunity to play a super competitive game in a great environment," Heat coach Erik Spoelstra said. "That's going to be an awesome environment. Our guys are built for that. They love that. ... Yeah, we understand what the narrative will be, but that's the way it is with our team."



AP
The Denver Nuggets celebrate during the second half of Game 4 of the basketball NBA Finals against the Miami Heat, Friday, June 9, 2023, in Miami.

History says this series is pretty much over; only one team in NBA history has dug its way out of such a hole in the finals, that being the 2016 Cleveland Cavaliers against the Golden State Warriors. Heat forward Kevin Love played for that Cleveland team.

"Forget the game," Love said. "It's just one possession, one quarter, half by half. Just get it done by any means necessary and we'll figure the rest out."

It will be a daunting task.

The Nuggets have held Miami under 100 points three times through the first four games; those were the three Denver wins in the series. They're 9-1

at home, the only loss coming in Game 2 of this series when Miami pulled off a big rally and survived when a potentially game-tying 3-pointer by Jamal Murray missed at the buzzer.

"This is what I always tell my guys: Winning a championship will be the hardest thing you ever do," said Heat forward Udonis Haslem, a three-time champion whose 20-year career ends when this series ends. "People only talk about the parade and holding up the trophy. They don't talk about the journey, the sleepless nights, the frustration, the tears, the pain. They don't talk about that (stuff). This is all part of that."

Denver isn't talking about a parade; some city officials in Dallas were during the 2006 finals when the Mavericks led Miami 2-0, and the Heat won the next four games. The Nuggets aren't making any such blunders. No blunders at all, really. Every detail is covered, even remembering to run the 24-second shot clock down to the very end on multiple possessions in the final minutes of Game 4, just to shorten the game and limit whatever chance Miami had at making a comeback.

"We've done our job. But we're not celebrating like we've done anything yet," Nuggets

coach Michael Malone said. "We know we're going to have to go home and turn off the TV, the radio, don't read the papers, don't listen to everybody telling you how great you are. ... We stay true to our identity."

Here's what that means: The Nuggets have two exceptional players, a two-time MVP in Jokic playing the role of Batman and a still-rising star in Murray happily playing the role of Robin in Denver's superhero duo.

Jokic—who will never willingly enter a conversation about his incredible stats—is on the cusp of becoming the first player to ever lead the NBA in

points, rebounds and assists during a postseason. Murray is the first player to have at least 10 assists in each of his four finals games. They have been the 1-2 punch that has put Miami on the ropes throughout this series.

And then there's always a third or fourth hero to finish the job. In Game 1, it was Michael Porter Jr. with 14 points and 13 rebounds. In Game 3, it was rookie Christian Braun with 15 points on 7-for-8 shooting. In Game 4, it was Aaron Gordon with a team-high 27 points and Bruce Brown with 21 off the bench.

"That's just how this team is built," Gordon said. "We have guys that can step up night in and night out. Sometimes it's not going to be your night, and sometimes it is going to be your night. This team does a good job finding the people that are kind of in a rhythm and kind of going."

Jokic gets most of the credit and doesn't want it. Murray doesn't get enough credit and doesn't care about that, either. The other guys, they just take their cues from Jokic and Murray and find a way.

If they do it one more time, they'll be getting rings in a few months.

"We're just ready to win a championship," Murray said. "We have the tools to do it. It's been on our minds for a while. We're just locked in. I don't think you've got to overthink it. We're just dialed in, ready to win."



PARIS (AP)—Novak Djokovic pursued Roger Federer and Rafael Nadal for quite some time. They were the guys he measured himself against. The players who established the standards he sought to surpass.

Sure, when Djokovic looks across the net in Court Philippe Chatrier during the French Open final on Sunday, he will see Casper Ruud trying to prevent him from earning a men's-record 23rd championship at a Grand Slam tournament.

Neither Federer (who announced his retirement last year) nor Nadal (who is out since January with a hip injury and recently had arthroscopic surgery) will be at Roland Garros, racket in hand and ready to present a challenge, of course.

Still, it's important to remember that the milestone Djokovic is chasing now is in many ways defined by his two great rivals. Entering the 2011 season, Federer owned 16 major championships, Nadal nine and Djokovic one. Just five years ago, Federer was at 20, Nadal 17 and Djokovic at 12.

Since then? Djokovic has collected 10 of the last 19

Djokovic eyes history with a 23rd Grand Slam title



AP
Serbia's Novak Djokovic plays a shot against Spain's Carlos Alcaraz during their semifinal match of the French Open tennis tournament at the Roland Garros stadium in Paris, Friday, June 9, 2023.

Slam titles and made clear his intention to keep adding to his total.

Federer stopped at 20; entering Sunday, Djokovic and Nadal are tied at 22. The only players in tennis history to exceed that number are Serena Williams, whose 23 are the most in the Open era, and Mar-

garet Court, whose 24 came in part during the amateur era.

"I put myself, again, in a position to fight for another Grand Slam trophy. I've been very fortunate that most of the matches in tournaments I've played in the last few years, there is history on the line. I like the feeling. It's a privi-

lege. It's incredible privilege to be able to make history of the sport that I truly love, and it has given me so much," Djokovic said after eliminating No. 1 Carlos Alcaraz in the semifinals. "The motivation is very high, as you can imagine. There is one more to go, and hopefully (I'll) get my hands

on the trophy."

Ruud will see what he can muster in an attempt to be the champion at a major for the first time.

"Is Novak the favorite? Yes, of course. There is no question about it," said Alexander Zverev, who has lost in the semifinals in Paris each of the past three years, including against Ruud on Friday. "He knows how it's done. He knows how to do it. But Casper is playing great tennis. If I would have to bet money, maybe I wouldn't bet on Casper too much. Does he have chances? Yes, he does. He's playing amazing tennis and I think he deserves to be in the final."

While this is Djokovic's 34th appearance in a major final—tied with Chris Evert for the most by a man or woman—it will be Ruud's third.

Ruud is 0-2 so far, and both losses came in 2022: against Nadal at Roland Garros, and against Carlos Alcaraz at the U.S. Open.

Ruud mentioned repeatedly that he will aim to avoid feeling pressure on Sunday.

"It's just a matter of not thinking, like, I 'need' to win

this match. ... This is a word that I try to sort of avoid. Obviously in the beginning of the tournament, that's sort of what you feel more and what you think about more, like: 'This is important to try to get this win and get going in the tournament,'" said Ruud, a 24-year-old from Norway who is coached by his father, Christian, a former professional player.

"But now I'm in the final. It's been a great two weeks, no matter what happens on Sunday, and I'm going to, of course, give it my all," Ruud said, "but sometimes you play your best tennis when you don't think too much."

He will see if he can devise a better way to attack the problems presented by Djokovic, a 36-year-old from Serbia.

They have played four times previous, twice on hard courts and twice on clay, and not only is Djokovic 4-0, but he has won all eight sets.

"I'm going to have to try to come up with a better game plan," Ruud said, "and just know I'm going to have to play my best game—my 'A' game, my best level that I've ever played—if I want to have a chance against him."

Sean Gil is champion of Marianas Skate Series

By LEIGH GASES

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REPORTER

Seventeen-year-old Sean Gil is a skater boy and said “see ya later: to the other skater boys as he outperformed them in the first-ever skateboarding competition—the Marianas Skate Series—last Saturday at the skatepark in Garapan.

Gil won the overall expert class competition after he scored a total of 787 points in the finals of the 2/5/3 Olympic skateboarding format. He landed



an almost perfect four out of five tricks in the final round; and had 258 points from his first run at the 45 second open trick round, and 268 in his second run. Gil also scored the highest in the opening round with 785 points after he landed three out of five tricks.

Gil's best trick was his tre-flip down the top gap of the park, which he attempted quite a few times before he finally landed it and sealed his bid for first place.

Second place and best trick of the competition went to

Kevin Codog who completed a noslide with a bright smile. Codog, despite his leg cramping up before he could even attempt his first run, still stole second place with 766 points from three out of five tricks landed.

Third place went to Miles Borja with 527 points from one out of five tricks landed.

Fourth place went to Alfredo Guevarra with 489 points.

The competition initially started with six competitors including Jimmy Polk and Jether Espinola, who both didn't make it to the final round after they failed to land any tricks in the 45-second open trick round.

The judges gave points based on their creativity, degree of difficulty, execution, and style.

Before the expert competition, a jam session for beginners was held in the morning with five skaters. Nomulong “N.J.” Pino grabbed first place with 251 points. Second went to Justin Weaver with 224 points, third was



LEIGH GASES

The champion of the first Marianas Skate Series, Sean Gil, attempts a tre-flip down between the top gap of the skate park during his first run in the expert class 2/5/3 Olympic skateboarding format last Saturday afternoon at the skate park in Garapan.

Chris Pino with 178 points, fourth was Arjay Corpuz, and fifth was John Vega with 166 points.

Gil won a trophy, a new board from Boarderline, and other prizes. He thanked God and his parents for his win. He is a student at Marianas High School who's been skateboarding for the past

three and a half years.

In an interview after the event, he said of the competition, “it's great! A lot of people in the community came out to watch us skate and it's a great thing to see people watch when there's not a lot of stuff going on... it was pretty fun.” He then thanked the organizers of the event and said that he'll definitely come back for next year's competition.

Codog received two boards for his second place finish and

best trick award. The 27-year-old said that he was surprised that he placed second because of his leg cramp. “I was just having fun and playing around, but thank God I won.”

About the competition, he said “we've been waiting for this. We've been waiting for this to keep skateboarding alive in Saipan.”

Edward Manibusan, organizer of the event from the Marianas Surf Skate League, said the turnout of the first-ever skateboard competition

was great. “Being our first competition, what we really wanted to do was just bring awareness to the skating community here on Saipan. It's always been around and we wanted to keep it growing and have more skaters and more skateparks in the future. We're happy with the turnout and we're happy with the sponsorships that came through and helped us put this event together.”

As for the competitors, Manibusan said “All the competitors were tough. I've seen these competitors practice for months already and they're just getting better. I'm just so amazed by their talent levels. Their skills are amazing. I'm pretty sure we can compete internationally or at least even start it in Guam. I think we're good enough to compete over there.”

The Marianas Surf Skate League thanks sponsors MARPAC, Pokka, Boarderline, All-Star Sporting Goods, Department of Land and Natural Resources, Parks and Recreations, Marianas Visitors Authority, Saipan Mayors Office, Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services, Saipan Surf Company, Salty Skin Pacific, Local Bones, and Caravan Restaurant.

CHINESE

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points when Chinese-Taipei came back and equalized, 20-20—it could go any way at this point, but South Korea's errors on their crucial last returns cost them the win by just two points, 22-20.

In the men's singles, unranked Liao Jhuo-Fu overpowered No. 7 Jeon Hyeok Jin of South Korea. Lee's game unraveled early on as Shin placed aggressive and deceptive returns that looked to Lee as if they were out of bounds, which cost Lee a few points when he failed to hit them. The first set

was a quick 21-15 and the second set an even quicker 21-14 final.

The men's doubles was another match to the finish as Wei Chun Wei and Wu Guan Xun escaped the clutches of South Korea's Jin Yong and Na Sung Seung. Wei and Wu started off strong and won the first set, 21-11, but Jin and Na bounced back to tie it up, 15-21.

The last set went back and forth as they tied it through most of the game, but Wei and Wu got the better of Jin Na in the end and won a close 21-18 match.

For the pair of Hsu and Lin, they said in an interview after

their match that it was tough. “It was difficult because they had lots of experience. So, I just did my best to take the game... we were very nervous but we just did our best and won.” Both will play in the next qualifier this week.

As for Liao, through his interpreter friend Presley Smith, he said that he knew his opponent was really strong, so he prepared well for it. Through the game, he said his strategy was just to relax and was happy he came out on top.

Results of the women's singles and mixed pairs finals will be posted in the next issues of *Saipan Tribune*.

TANIA

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the women's division was Savannah Grant in 55:21, while completing the Top 3 was Terra Allen in 55:47

Shigeki Tenorio finished second to Veloria among the men in 46:11, while Chad Taflinger came in third in 49:24.

Run Saipan president Edward Dela Cruz Jr. congratulated Tan and Veloria for coming in first in the men's and women's divisions, respectively.

“Amazing job to each one of you for achieving personal bests as well as completing the course under full and grueling humidity and daylight.”

He also thanked Run Saipan partners and sponsors

for making the event special as well as successful.

“Thank you to the Division of Parks and Recreation, especially director Michael Cruz for giving us access to the venue as well as restrooms available for our participants as early as 4:30am. Thank you to One Time Sports for the timing system and results. Thank you to IT&E for providing the wireless network to power our timing system. Thank you to Northern Marianas Athletics and Saipan International School for providing for the course safety systems and guidance ways. Thank you to the American Red Cross NMI Chapter and Latte Built 24 for providing again for this year's refreshments for our runners. Special thank you to the Division of Fire

Emergency Medical Services, Commonwealth Ports Authority Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting, and Department of Public Safety for providing first responders at our community event. They provided safety and medical assistance. These events are never possible without the partnership and full support from our government.”

Dela Cruz also extended his kudos to Run Saipan's army of volunteers.

“Runners please thank them when you see them. Thank you to Run Saipan officials, Northern Marianas Athletics officials, and MHS Running Club and DanDan Middle school Students for volunteering and creating an exceptional event for our runners. Without you, there would be no Grotto 10K.”

BLUE

From Page 20

and found themselves miraculously down by just 9 points, 41-32, at the half.

Blue Eagle continued to squander their once almost 30-point lead at the start of third, as Chris George nearly tied things up for Ol'Aces' with his personal 8-point cluster to end the third with his team just down by a manageable 5 points, 50-55.

Ol'Aces continued their march toward redemption in the fourth and final quarter and made it as close as 59-58 on a sweet jumper by come-backing Peter Camacho with 6:37 left in the game.

That served as a prelude to an edge-of-your-seat end to the game as Blue Eagle responded with 4-0 run kicked off by a layup from 6'3" behemoth De Shawn Reign followed by a fastbreak layup from Mark Francisco.

Ol'Aces power-playing forward Romeo Iginoef retaliated with a moonshot over Reign to make it just a 3-point lead with 5:22 to go, but Andrew Ashburn was fouled on the next play by Iginoef.

“Uncle Drew” missed the second free throw but Reign was there for the putback. Francisco and Joel Javier then had back-to-back-to-back fast-

break forays to make the game seemingly out of reach for Ol'Aces, 72-60, with 3:12 left in the clock.

After a timeout, George and Gino Libuw morphed into the Splash Brothers and made 3-pointer after 3-pointer.

Libuw was the first to strike with his Steph Curry impersonation to make it 72-63 a little over 3 minutes and change left.

George made his Klay Thompson bit to make it a 6-point game, 66-72, at the 2:49 mark before Jet Jandoc found Reign underneath the basket to stymie the rally, 74-66.

After a missed shot by Ol'Aces, Ashburn came back with a field goal before Camacho made another midrange to whittle it down to 8 points once again.

Libuw then made it a 5-point deficit, 71-76, for Ol'Aces when he hit another triple with 1:19 left.

Ashburn answered with a 3-pointer of his own 20 seconds later before a jumper by Camacho made it 79-73 with 48 ticks left on the clock.

Ashburn made up for an airball with a key block on Camacho with 20 seconds to go, but Libuw was at it again with another 3-pointer with 15 seconds left and Blue Eagle hanging on to just a 3-point lead.

Blue Eagle played keep-away in the last 14 seconds as Ol'Aces inexplicably didn't foul to stop the clock. When they did foul with 0.4 seconds to go, it was already all over but the shouting as Blue Eagle escaped with the win.

Ashburn paced Blue Eagle with 16 points, while Reign and Melvin Villarin added 14 and 11 markers, respectively.

Libuw led all scorers with 22 points, while Camacho rode his DeLorean to 16 points with George and Iginoef chipping in 15 and 11 points in the gallant loss by not-so Old Aces.

Blue Eagle now takes on masters division first finals qualifier Blue Haus tomorrow, June 13, starting at 6pm at the Koblerville Basketball Court.

The masters championship will be followed by the finals of the open division between New Changming Market and Martech-Ol'Aces at 7:30pm. Both championship games will be winner-take-all bouts.

Blue Eagle/Royal Pacific 79 – Ashburn 16, Reign 14, Villarin 13, Javier 9, Jandoc 8, Francisco 6, Estolas 5, Rotap 5, Echavez 3.

Ol'Aces 76 – Libuw 22, Camacho 16, George 15, R. Iginoef 11, Rangamar 8, D. Joab 4.

Scoring by quarters: 25-6, 41-32, 55-50, 79-76.



Diamondbacks win 5-0 as Tigers tumble in 8th straight loss.

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Sean Gil is champion of Marianas Skate Series.

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Tan

Tania resets Grotto 10K course record

By **MARK RABAGO**
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Tania Tan broke the course record in Run Saipan's 2nd Annual Grotto 10K '23 last Saturday in Marpi.

The 21-year-old Fordham University track and field varsity member eclipsed Dr. Lily Muldoon's time of 44:57 set last year by running the 10-kilometer cross country run from the Grotto to just past Kalabera Cave in 42:50.

Northern Marianas College student and Tan's national athletics teammate, Sildrey Veloria, came in second over-

all and first among the men after crossing the finish line in 44:54.

Tan said she's happy to be back home and is slowly adjusting to Saipan's hot and humid weather.

"It was a little tough, especially at the beginning because I found it so hot and humid. As you can see I'm dripping [with sweat] but slowly I'm getting used to it," she said.

The 2022 NMSA Athlete of the Year said aside from the heat, the course's hills also gave her challenges.



"The hills were tough for me. It was unexpected, especially the first part going out of the Grotto. It was a good challenge and we just tried to stick together as much as possible throughout the race. It was a lot of fun."

Veloria, for his part, tried to keep pace with Tan from the start but gave up halfway.

"In the beginning I thought I was going to keep up with Tania. But halfway I just had to let her go in the ending part halfway into the course. I just tried to maintain my pace and tried not to cramp if possible.

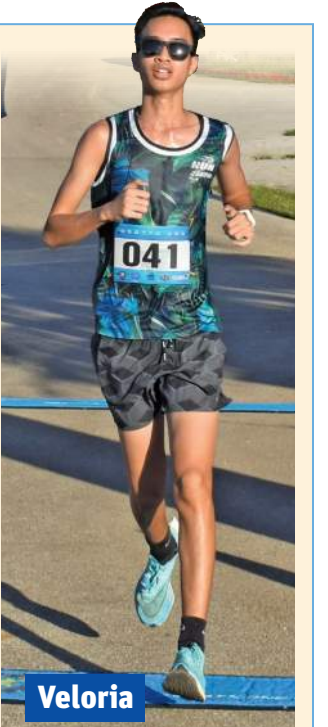
Overall, it was a great race and I'm looking forward to next year," he said.

Asked what was the hardest part of the race, Veloria said it was all the loose dirt on some parts of the course.

"The dirt was pretty loose so you just try to bounce and not track the dirt and that for me was the challenge," he said.

Tan seconded Veloria when she said, "The ground was pretty uneven and you just had to watch your footing and to keep your pace. [There] was also a lot of cow poop."

Finishing second to Tan in
See TANIA on Page 19



Veloria

WOMEN'S & MEN'S DOUBLES, MEN'S SINGLES

Chinese-Taipei sweeps 3 divisions



LEIGH GASES

No. 1 seeds Hsu Ya Ching, right, and Lin Wan Ching of Chinese-Taipei came out on top of the women's doubles finals after defeating No. 4 seed Lee Yu Lim and Shin Seung Chan of South Korea in the Crowne Plaza Northern Marianas Open 2023 at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium yesterday afternoon.

By **LEIGH GASES**
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REPORTER

Chinese-Taipei swept their competition in the finals of the women's doubles, men's singles, and men's doubles of the first badminton 2024 Paris Olympics qualifier in the CNMI—the Crowne Plaza Northern Marianas Open 2023—at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium yesterday afternoon.

No. 1 seed Hsu Ya Ching and Lin Wan Ching came out on top of the women's doubles after an excruciatingly close match against No. 4 seed Lee Yu

Lim and Shin Seung Chan of South Korea.



Masterful after masterful strokes of their rackets created an unforgettable Olympic qualifier fi-

nals that the CNMI's audience would not soon forget. From the first set, both teams were evenly matched as the set ended with a close 21-19 score in favor of Chinese-Taipei.

The second set was even more of a nailbiter when it seemed like Chinese-Taipei would win it all, but South Korea's dynamic duo fought for the tie-breaking third set when they got away with 21-18.

The third set was fought tooth and nail but early on, it seemed Hsu and Lin would come out on top, however, Lee and Shin came back from a 4-9 deficit and turned the tables when they took the lead, 20-17. It was down to the final

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LEIGH GASES

The men's singles champion, unranked Liao Jhuo-Fu of Chinese-Taipei, leaps for a return in the second set of his finals match against No. 7 South Korean Jeon Hyeok Jin during the Crowne Plaza Northern Marianas Open 2023 at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium yesterday afternoon.

Blue Eagle survives Ol'Aces, advances to masters finals

By **MARK RABAGO**
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR



Blue Eagle/Royal Pacific nipped Ol'Aces, 79-76, to advance to the finals of the masters division of the 2nd Annual Saipan Centennial Lions Basketball League last Thursday night at the Civic Center Basketball Court.

Ol'Aces couldn't have started the game any worse against Blue Eagle, as they went down early and often and found themselves in a big hole, 25-6, after the first 10 minutes of play.

It would go from worse to worst come the second quarter as Blue Eagle continued to pour it on and at one point Ol'Aces was down by 28 whopping points.

Good thing Blue Eagle kind of went cold after that and it was Ol'Aces' turn to be on target for a change and that saw the Oleai team creep back in

See BLUE on Page 19

MARK RABAGO

Blue Eagle/Royal Pacific's Jet Jandoc drives against Ol'Aces' Gino Libuw in the masters division of the 2nd Annual Saipan Centennial Lions Basketball League last Thursday night at the Civic Center Basketball Court.

